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THE TIMES

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12 1981

Price twenty pence

BL dispute spreads as talks fail

Four hundred BL Allegro car assemblers voted to join the 1,800 Metro and Mini workers on strike over a move to cut tea breaks. Talks on the dispute broke down with both sides more entrenched than ever. Shop stewards told the management that the breaks were sacrosanct. They were united in rejecting a reduction. Back page

New car deal with Honda

BL and Honda are to produce another new car jointly. Mr Ray Horrocks, BL cars' chairman, is to announce the deal in Tokyo a month after the launch of the Triumph Acclaim, BL's version of the Honda Ballade Page 15

Strike threat over ferry closure

A series of sporadic strikes on P & O ships later this month may be recommended by the National Union of Seamen in an attempt to force the company to negotiate over the Liverpool-Belfast ferry service, which has been officially closed Page 2

Opposition to joint Irish body

The Irish side of the Anglo-Irish studies have met strong resistance to their wish for an inter-parliamentary body comprising elected representatives from Belfast, Dublin and London. The report is refreshingly frank about misconceptions affecting relations between the two countries Page 2

Moscow rejects Swedish protest

The Soviet government has bluntly rejected Sweden's protest over the intrusion of a Soviet submarine into its territorial waters and accused Stockholm of distorting the truth. An official note says that Sweden's allegations about the submarine's activities were "absurd" Page 9

Profits again at Woolworth

F. W. Woolworth, the chain store, reported a £4.9m profit for the third quarter, wiping out its £1.48m loss in the previous six months. The profit [illegible] that in the nine months to October 31, the group made pretax profits of £3.4m against £7.1m in the same period last year Page 15

England start on a winning note

England's cricketers got off to the best possible start on their tour of Indian when they beat the CCI President's XI by 47 runs in a one-day match in Bombay. Cook set up the victory with a stubborn innings of 56 Page 21



Castro warns of US intervention

In a letter to the *Washington Post*, President Fidel Castro said American reports of Cuban troops in Nicaragua were part of a campaign of lies by the United States Government. The purpose of it was to set the stage for an American intervention in Cuba, he claimed Page 8

Queen's Speech endorsed

The Government's legislative programme as set out in the Queen's Speech was endorsed by the Commons by 301 votes to 250, Government majority 50.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Shadow Cabinet clash

Obey the rules or go, Foot tells Benn

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Michael Foot, at a tense two hour meeting of the Shadow Cabinet, insisted last night that Mr Wedgwood Benn must obey the rules of collective responsibility.

If Mr Benn behaved as he had in speaking to the Commons on Tuesday night, Mr Foot said, then his continued presence in the Shadow Cabinet over the next critical 12 months would make it utterly unworkable.

Mr Foot suggested that Mr Benn should let him know by six o'clock this evening, the time of the weekly party meeting, whether or not he proposes to seek reelection to the Shadow Cabinet on the terms on which Mr Foot has always insisted: That he will stand by any agreement which he and his colleagues make, and respect the position of colleagues who have specific front bench responsibilities.

Fresh elections to the Shadow Cabinet are to be conducted over the next seven days. Hitherto Mr Foot has urged Mr Benn to stand, and Labour MPs to vote for him, in the hope of uniting the party. Last night Mr Foot said, in effect, that that hope was now slender.

Mr Foot's appeal was made after Mr Benn infuriated Shadow Cabinet colleagues with a speech in which, they believed, he had deliberately broken a collective agreement among them all on how Labour's policy towards renationalizing North Sea oil and gas assets should be defined.

Winding up for the Opposition on Tuesday night, Mr Benn said that Labour would acquire, without compensation, all the North Sea assets which the Government plans to dispose of. He told the Commons that was party policy.

But his words diverged from a formula to which he had earlier assented, and which he had himself helped to draft, which did not say that compensation would not be paid. It said that Labour would restore the assets to public ownership "on terms that will ensure that no private speculative gains are made at the nation's expense".

Mr Benn's words gravely embarrassed Mr [illegible] spokesman on energy, who had used the approved words earlier in the debate. Mr Rees was incensed. He said today that he had shown Mr Benn the relevant text of his speech before delivering it, and that Mr Benn had indicated approval.

Public repudiation of speech

Mr Rees, who at first told colleagues that he might well resign, yesterday demanded Mr Foot's support and Mr Foot yesterday morning publicly repudiated Mr Benn's speech.

Mr Foot's office put out a statement which recorded that the words used by Mr Rees were unanimously agreed, with Mr Benn present, on two occasions, by the Shadow Cabinet on October 21, and by the party's national executive committee on October 28.

The statement was made, Mr Foot said, "to dispel the confusion caused by Mr Tony Benn's remarks in the Commons."

When the Shadow Cabinet convened last night, Mr Benn found himself isolated. He had maintained in the Commons that the policy of renationalizing without compensation had been approved by the party conference. In fact, the history of conference decisions leaves some room for doubt, since they are mutually contradictory.

Mr Benn had some support among constitutionalists, but no support in the Shadow Cabinet.

Last night, Mr Foot reminded him of the provision in Labour's constitution that the NEC is in any even the custodian of decisions made by the party conference; in other words that it has the last word.

What was more, Mr Foot argued, the NEC of October 28 had reached its own decision unanimously, with Mr Benn playing his part, in the full knowledge of all the relevant decisions of past party conferences.

Mr Foot told his colleagues that after the last annual conference, at Brighton six weeks ago, he hoped the party would unite to beat the Tories and concentrate on the curse of mass unemployment and on how to stop the nuclear arms race.

In fact, they had injured their electoral prospects, and in one miserable sense, the Social Democrats were Labour's own creation; shaped by their own introverted follies. He recalled how he had spoken in favour of Mr Benn joining the Shadow Cabinet and retaining his position as chairman of the home policy committee.

He hoped that would pave the way for reconciliation in the party. But now, by his speech on Tuesday night, Mr Benn had brilliantly succeeded in creating a fresh quarrel within the party and on this occasion he must bear the whole responsibility.

What had happened, Mr Foot went on, was a classic illustration of the need for some form of collective responsibility. Without it, the argument against the Tories was turned back by the Labour Party on itself.

Pledge sought on future conduct

So, Mr Foot asked, was Mr Benn going to help Labour to win the next election or not? "If he is going to conduct himself in relation to his colleagues as he did last night, then his presence would make the Shadow Cabinet over the next critical 12 months, utterly unworkable.

"I would not vote for him myself on that basis, and I would not ask anyone else to do so." What was a reference to the Shadow Cabinet elections which begin today.

Mr Foot said he still hoped, although the hope was now slender, that Mr Benn would stand for election on the inescapable terms he had described. If so, it would be of great benefit to the party.

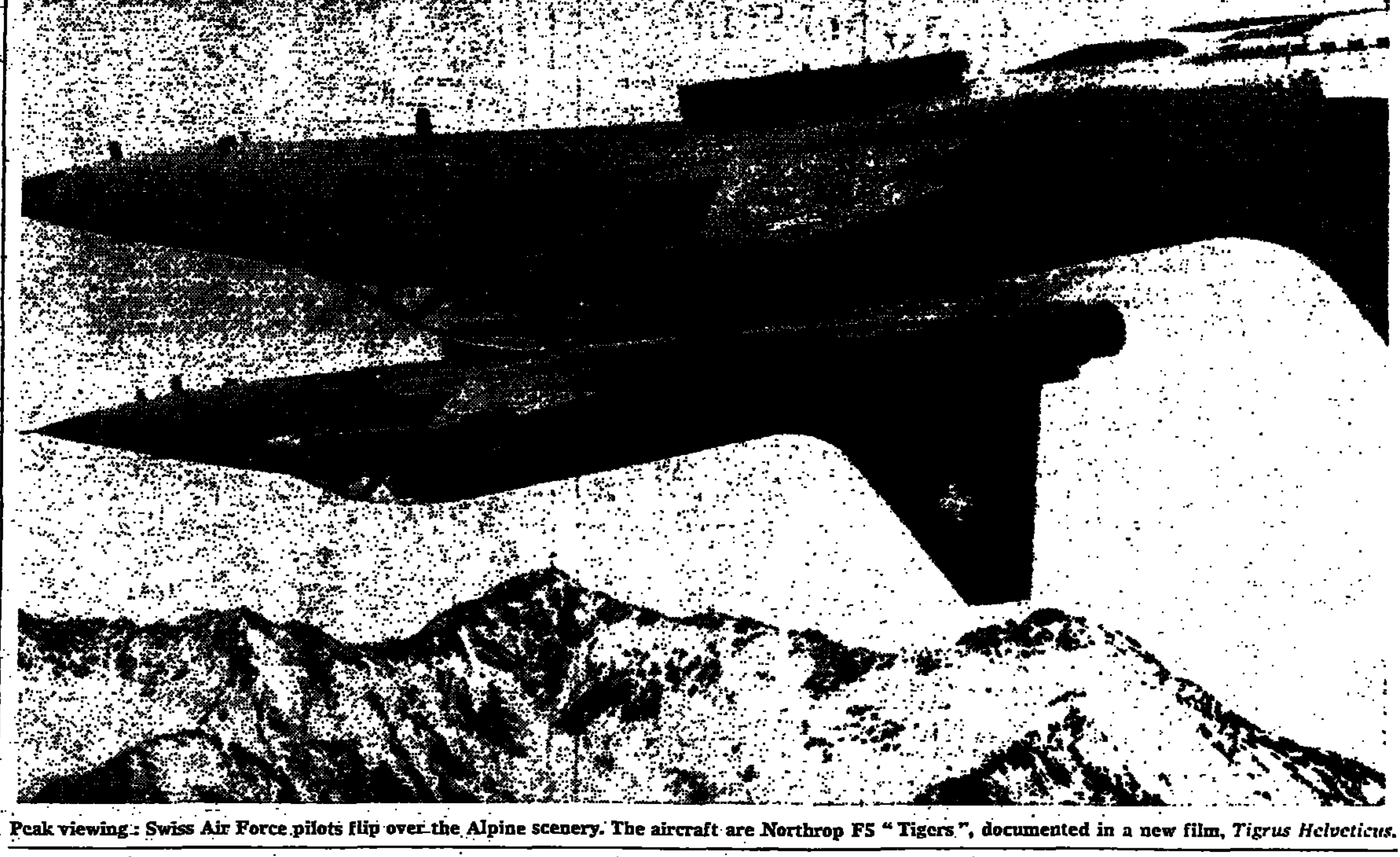
"If he chooses instead the course of fresh dissension, there can be no doubt where the responsibility lies. It rests with him, and no one else."

A long discussion followed Mr Foot's intervention. Mr Benn defended his position at some length, and maintained a different view of the constitutional question, but none of his colleagues agreed with him.

Mr Foot appeared last night to have accepted the view of those who have long tried to persuade him that Mr Benn does not wish to observe the normal rules. He does not expect Mr Benn to respond to his challenge and if Mr Benn decides to contest the elections on his own terms, it will be against Mr Foot's wishes. But, whether Mr Foot will actively campaign to secure his defeat was not made plain last night.

☐ Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, was at pains yesterday to dissociate himself and the TUC from Mr Benn's comment that a future Labour Government would renationalize are BNOC and British Gas operations without compensation (Peter Hill writes).

Benn role at Crosby, page 2
Leading article, page 13



Peak viewing: Swiss Air Force pilots flip over the Alpine scenery. The aircraft are Northrop F5 "Tigers", documented in a new film, *Tigrus Helveticus.*

Civil Service Department axed by Thatcher

By Philip Webster and Peter Hennessy

In the biggest shake-up of the machinery of government in Whitehall since 1968, Mrs Margaret Thatcher will announce today the disbandment of the Civil Service Department and the dispersal of its functions to the Treasury and the Cabinet Office.

The principal reason for the change, long debated within the Government but hitherto avoided, is the Prime Minister's determination to take firmer control over Civil Service pay, manpower, and efficiency.

The changes will involve the premature retirement of Sir Ian Bancroft, head of the home Civil Service and his number two, Sir John Herbecq, second permanent secretary to the CSD. Sir Ian was due to retire in December next year and Sir John next May.

A new body attached to the Cabinet Office, to be called the office of personnel management, will be established. Sir Robert Armstrong, secretary of the Cabinet, will add to his already important functions, responsibility for senior appointments to the civil and public services and looks likely to assume the leadership of the Civil Service.

The Whitehall debate that has gone on since 1976, has finally been resolved with the reshaping of the heart of the Government machine, along lines proposed by Sir Derek Rayner, joint managing director of Marks and Spencer, and the Prime Minister's adviser on the elimination of waste.

Sir Derek temporarily lost the argument a year ago when the CSD was put on probation by the Prime Minister rather than disbanded.

The dispersal of the CSD's functions will serve primarily to extend the Treasury's grip to embrace both public spending any pay pensions and manpower. It reflects Sir Derek's conviction that substantial strides towards a more efficient Whitehall cannot be made without a fusion of the elements that combine to make a potentially fitter and leaner central bureaucracy.

The Cabinet is already preparing its position for next year's Civil Service pay negotiations. Ministers are convinced that the Treasury will prove to be much tougher than the CSD was under Lord Soames, the former Lord President of the Council, during this year's dispute.

The removal of Lord Soames from office in Mrs Thatcher's September reshuffle has paved the way for today's announcement, for he was known to be opposed to such a disbandment. The Prime Minister was also unhappy over his handling of the pay dispute.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, expressed reservations last year to the Prime Minister about the extra burden of work that would fall upon him if the whole Civil Service Department was put back inside the Treasury, whence it came in 1968. By spreading the load between several ministers, the Prime Minister appears to have assuaged Sir Geoffrey's fears.

Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, will add responsibility for manpower to his existing remit on public spending. Sir Geoffrey will assume the overlordship of public service pay.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the CSD, will move to the Treasury to assist the two Cabinet Ministers. Lady Young, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, will remain, under the Prime Minister, minister in day-to-day charge of the Civil Service and will have ministerial responsibility for the new office of personnel management.

Mr John Cassels, recently appointed second permanent secretary in charge of Sir Derek's unit in the Cabinet Office, will be the senior civil servant, beneath Sir Robert Armstrong, in charge of the office of personnel management, including its functions of recruitment and training.

Defence shake-up, page 2

PLO snubs Britain over 'slur'

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Nov 11

Lord Carrington may be able to state the conditions upon which he would meet Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chairman, but Mr Arafat, it seems, is no longer interested in talking to the British Foreign Secretary.

At a press conference in Damascus this evening, the PLO's official spokesman claimed that the organization was not prepared to hold discussions with any British officials because of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's and Lord Carrington's "black hatred towards the struggle of the Palestinian people".

Mr Abdul-Mohsen Abu-Maizer condemned the British Prime Minister for linking the PLO with terrorism and for calling upon the PLO to recognize Israel. "These statements," he said, "reveal a black hatred and evil intentions towards the rights of the Palestinian people.

"The United Kingdom Government knows very well that the PLO has repeatedly reiterated its respect for international law, and its condemnation of the official and organized terrorism perpetrated by Israel."

These sound like strong words, but such noisy rhetoric also forms part of the prelude to the Arab summit in Morocco later this [illegible] conference at which [illegible] that recognition of Israel is its main—indeed its only—bargaining card in Middle East peace negotiations and should not be squandered.

Since many European countries already recognize that the PLO represents at least a section of the Palestinian people, Mr Arafat probably had little to gain by meeting Lord Carrington, especially when the British were involving themselves with the Camp David peace process.

According to Mr Abu-Maizer, any European country which called on the PLO to recognize Israel was "attempting to liquidate the Palestinian cause". The PLO knows that recognition will eventually have to be made if it is to participate in peace negotiations with Israel. But for the moment, it looks as though Lord Carrington will have to choose less painful conditions for any meetings he plans to have with Mr Arafat.

Rates Bill falters as Tory revolt grows

By Our Political Editor

The conviction that the Government will soon move to appease Conservative critics of its Bill to restrict rate increases grew at Westminster last night after Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was warned by the executive of the 1922 Committee that it had no chance of getting through as it stood.

It was the second time in successive days that Mr Heseltine had been called before influential backbench groups and faced critical examination of his proposals.

The 1922 executive—the senior backbench body—gave Mr Heseltine and his Minister of State, Mr Tom King, a courteous hearing and great deal of firm advice in an interview which lasted some 90 minutes.

The two ministers then went straight to Downing Street to join a small meeting with the Prime Minister in the chair. They considered the Bill's prospects and the immediate danger of a damaging reverse when the Commons today debates the principles behind the Bill, on an Opposition motion.

It was notable that a majority of those at the meeting, attended by all those concerned with getting the Government's business through Parliament, have expressed grave misgivings over the Bill. They include Mr William Whitelaw the Home Secretary, Mr Francis Pym, leader of the Commons, Mr Michael Jobling, the chief whip and Lady Young, leader of the Lords.

Anxiety on the part of the Government about a rebellion among Tory MPs was indicated today from the Foreign Office, that Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State responsible for the Middle East, had cancelled a visit to Washington.

The reason was given as pressure of parliamentary business. A Foreign Offfce spokesman said Mr Hurd was required to vote at the end of tomorrow's debate.

Many Conservative MPs, in common with some Tory-controlled councils, regard the Government's proposals as a gross interference into the autonomy of local councils.

Some Tory MPs have already given notice that they will abstain in the vote. A few might even vote against the Government. Mrs Thatcher and Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, are regarding the debate as a test of the support they can expect when the Bill itself is debated.

But some Conservatives are known to be holding fire today on a vote which will have no constiutional effect, in the hope of hoodwinking the Government into thinking they can get their Bill through.

If the vote for the Government today is narrow, party managers may decide to dilute the Bill to ensure that it becomes law. But the news from Downing Street last night was that the Opposition motion would be defeated easily, even though some Tory MPs have committed themselves publicly to abstain, if not to oppose the policy.

Merger cleared

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, has decided not to refer the acquisition by the Norton Company of certain assets of AI Industrial Products to the Monopolies Commission.

Livingstone says London Transport facing break up if rates appeal is lost

By Sarah Segrue

London Transport will be heading towards total disintegration if the House of Lords decides against the Greater London Council over its cheaper fares policy, Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the council's leader, said last night.

A sympathetic audience of some 120 members of the Camden Town Amenity and Transport Group listened silently as Mr Livingstone spelt out the dire consequences of the "Fares Fair" policy being abolished.

On Tuesday Lord Denning and two other judges of the Court of Appeal found that the council had acted illegally in subsidising fares through a supplementary rate precept.

Yesterday Mr Livingstone predicted that, within six months of that judgment taking effect, London Transport would be well on the way to a skeleton service for the poor and deprived which operates in cities such as Los Angeles.

"People are just going to give up and say this is the end of London Transport," he said. Cars would be used more often, causing more congestion on the roads, more lead in the atmosphere and greater disruption of people's lives.

The Law Lords must realize that they are taking a decision that will have a major impact on the lives of every man, woman and child in London. "If they get that decision wrong they are doing irreparable damage to the quality of life."

Mr Livingstone was applauded as he said that in the first month of the cheaper fares passengers on the buses had increased by 12 per cent and on the underground by 6 per cent. All that would go if the policy was abolished. Fares would have to be higher than ever before in London and staff would have to be cut.

Since May, 1,200 staff had been recruited to London Transport and Mr Livingstone was confident that he was on course for a fully manned service, fulfilling the promise of a bus every 10 or 20 minutes, if that was what the route offered.

That was dependent on current policy. As it went, Mr Livingstone said, London Transport would immediately have to reduce the service and get rid of staff.

Although fares have been cut by his administration Mr Livingstone had reservations about a free transport system. Staff were still needed to operate the Routemasters and the ability to jump on and off buses for a couple of stops would just slow the traffic down.

Mr Livingstone, who tape recorded the whole of his speech, said that Lord Denning, in his ruling, had done nothing for integrity in public life. "I would not mind if people who did not implement their election pledges got this sort of clobbering", he said.

He also had critical words on the press coverage. "Almost all of it was ill-informed and bigoted".

Council subsidies, page 2

Miners to consider 9.13% pay offer today

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Miners' leaders will today consider a "final" pay offer valued by the National Coal Board at 9.13 per cent and setting a new target for other powerful public sector groups.

The £100m package, giving some higher-paid faceworkers rises of over 10 per cent, will be put by miners' negotiators to the National Union of Mineworkers' executive at a meeting in London this morning.

The union side of the joint negotiating body declined to make a formal commitment last night, but Mr Joseph Gormley, the union president, was unequivocal in recommending the improved offer.

"I think there is not another halfpenny we can screw out of the board on this occasion," he said, "I think we have done pretty well to get this out of the board."

Left-wing negotiators left the talks without declaring their hand, but they may argue today that the offer should be referred to a recalled NUM conference.

Mr Gormley will press strongly today for the executive to put the offer, yielding average weekly earnings increases of between £6.85 and £10.06, directly to a pithead ballot with a recommendation to accept.

The narrow right-wing majority on the executive would normally be expected to carry the day in favour of the proposal, although Mr Gormley acknowledged last night that next months' presidential election, in which three moderate candidates are standing against Mr Arthur Scargill, had created a different climate.

Mr Gormley said: "With or even without a recommendation the lads will have the good sense to accept it."

The deal on offer is well over double the 4 per cent norm set by the Cabinet for four million public service workers, which ministers have made clear they also want taken into account across the whole public sector.

While ministers will be relieved that the offer, falling well short of the miners' 23.7 per cent claim, is, according to the NCB, within double figures, it is bound to set a target for groups like power supply, gas, water, and railway workers.

Continued on back page, col 1

Gormley tells miners to take 9 per cent.

Tanker drivers ballot on 8 per cent; Vauxhall Luton men accept 5 per cent—back page.

Ample scope for Paisley in Anglo-Irish study

From Christopher Thomas, Dublin

The Anglo-Irish joint studies have pointed to three fundamental issues that affect relations between Britain and Ireland: the republic's constitutional claim over Northern Ireland, Britain's constitutional guarantee to Ulster, and the complex church-state relationships throughout Ireland.

The report of the studies, published simultaneously in Dublin and Westminster yesterday, contains none of the horrors that the Rev Ian Paisley has been predicting, but there is ample scope for him to pursue and extend his increasingly bizarre campaign against Britain's "betrayal".

The report is the result of 10 months of work by officials from Dublin and Westminster. Its tone is moderate but it is refreshingly frank.

Surprisingly, the Irish side agreed that the removal of Britain's constitutional guarantee to Northern Ireland would not bring about a more tolerant attitude among Northern Unionists, but rather would have the reverse effect, presumably because it would heighten insecurity.

The 52-page report is tedious in places. The longest section is devoted to the rights of citizens in each other's country.

Its most important idea was the establishment of an inter-governmental council, which is happening, and it is clear that the Irish side met strong resistance to their wish for an inter-parliamentary body comprising elected representatives from Belfast, Dublin and London.

It said: "In the British view this should be further considered in the light of experience and of opinions which may over time be expressed by members of either or both of the two national parliaments. In the meantime efforts should be made to broaden the activities and composition of the existing Anglo-Irish parliamentary group."

The Irish view was that the parliamentary group could become a part of the new inter-governmental council. It mooted the idea of an Anglo-Irish parliamentary committee, as a first step towards a broader parliamentary body with purely advisory and consultative functions.

The report is laced with many other fruits of the bureaucratic ideas machine such as the sharing of gas and electricity, the secondment of officials between London and Dublin, a single institution for administering policy on the arts throughout Ireland, the establishment of contacts between the republic and the Open University.

□ A part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment who was shot in co Fermanagh on Monday night died in hospital yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Mr Cecil Graham, aged 29, was hit by 16 bullets after leaving his father-in-law's home in Lisnaskea, where he had been visiting his wife and baby. The Provisional IRA claimed responsibility.

Anglo-Irish Joint Studies (Cmnd 8414, Stationery Office; £3.05).

Stronger role for Chief of Staff

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Mr John Nott, the Secretary of State for Defence, is trying to strengthen the position of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) at his ministry. A number of "evolutionary changes" are being worked on, he said yesterday.

The minister and his aides were, however, at pains to emphasize that the authority of the other single-Service chiefs of staff will remain undiminished.

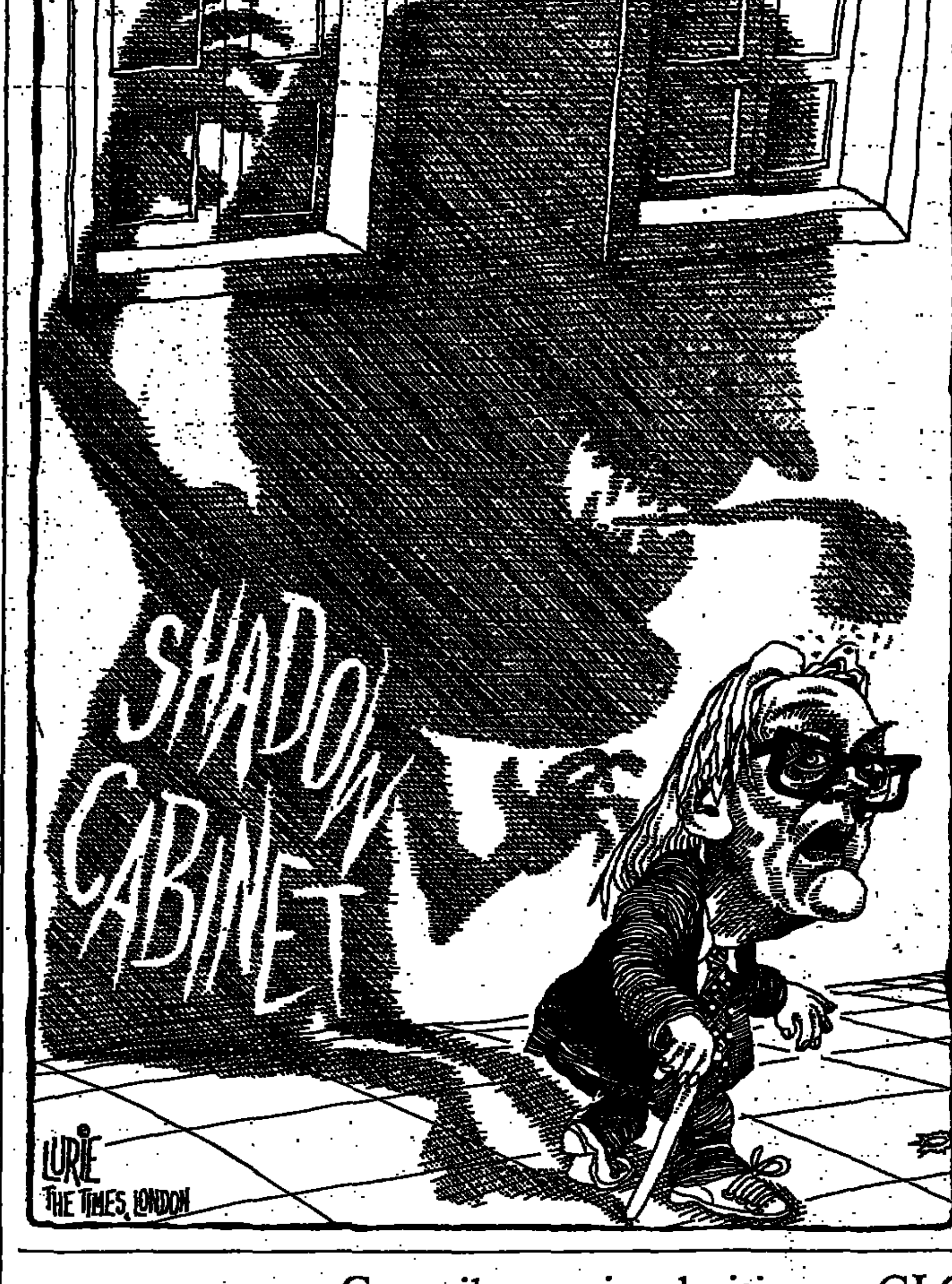
At present the chiefs' opinions on defence issues are communicated to ministers by the CDS, at present Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin.

Sources indicate, though, that in future he will be encouraged to express his opinion separately so that the ministers can take an overall view, rather than be influenced simply by the views of the individual Services.

A number of defence secretaries have tried in the past to boost the power of the CDS, as part of their ambition to dilute the influence of single-Service rivalry on big issues. Mr Nott, however, has the advantage of having already done away with the single-Service ministers, and despite reassurvices will interest these latest and another review of how best moves as the thin en'l of yet another wedge.

Mr Nott referred to his plans while outlining other changes to the House of Commons defence committee, which is studying defence procurement.

A study of how financial control procedures should be modified had been completed.



'The Times' helped to pinpoint disease

Mrs Christine English, aged 37, a divorced mother of two, of Colchester, Essex, walked free from Norwich Crown Court on Tuesday because Mr David Cooper her solicitor, was a reader of *The Times*.

Mrs English, who pleaded not guilty to the murder of Mr Barry Kitson, her lover, but guilty of manslaughter due to diminished responsibility, submitted that she was suffering from premenstrual tension when she ran him down with her car. She was conditionally discharged for a year.

"Of all the newspapers since taking interest in the case, it was *The Times* we had to thank the most," Mr Cooper said last night. He had been reading an article in the newspaper about premenstrual tension and suddenly remembered that as he was taking the statements from Mrs English.

He checked with her periodic cycle and found that the offence had been committed just before the onset of a period.

Dr Katarina Dalton, a Harley Street specialist who gave evidence in defence, said that premenstrual syndrome, a hormonal disease which would affect the mind, would make the subject irritable and aggressive with a lack of self-control.

It was her opinion that Mrs English was suffering from those effects at the time.

Mrs English was not available last night for comment.

A woman's all-purpose excuse? page 12

CONCESSION COST

The BBC would lose £170m a year in revenue if pensioners were given free television licences, Mr Alan Hart, controller BBC 1, told pensioners' representatives yesterday.

Science report

Starlight clue to Neptune's moons

By the Staff of "Nature"

Astronomical observations of the distant planet Neptune passing in front of an even more distant star seem to suggest that the planet has a previously undetected moon. Only two other moons of this giant planet are known: Triton, discovered in 1846 and a little bigger than our own Moon; and Nereid, 150 miles across and discovered in 1949.

The new moon was discovered by a team which was searching for rings around Neptune. Saturn, once thought to be the only planet in the solar system with rings around it, must now be classed with Jupiter and Uranus, their rings around which were discovered recently; and since all four big planets, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune (moving from the Sun outwards) are rather similar, being big and gaseous, it was reasonable to guess that Neptune might have a ring too.

So Harold J. Reitsema and colleagues at the University of Arizona made use of a lucky coincidence earlier this year—that Neptune, in its slow motion around the solar system, was going to pass across our line of sight to a particularly bright star. Stars are so far away that they appear pointlike to us, and if one passed behind a ring of Neptune it would briefly disappear. In fact it would disappear twice, as its straight path behind the circular ring would cross the ring twice.

In the event, the star did disappear, but only once. This suggests that the star just grazed past the edge of a ring, or was briefly covered by a moon. Neither of the known moons of Neptune was in the right place at the time, and a grazing path would have caused a drawn-out disappearance (whereas the disappearance was brief); so the only likely conclusion must be that there is a third moon around Neptune.

Luckily it will be possible in a few years to check this chance observation: *Voyager 2*, the American spacecraft now sailing away from Saturn, is due first at Uranus and will reach Neptune on August 24, 1989. Then, if *Voyager 2* is still working, we should see it all in pictures.

Source: *Bulletin of the American Astronomical Society* (vol 13, no 3, 6721) 1981.

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Crosby by-election

Benn stands in for the moderates

From Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, Liverpool

Mr Wedgwood Benn has been honoured with a double speaking engagement in the Crosby by-election campaign next week. It was disclosed yesterday that Mr John Backhouse, prospective Labour candidate for the November 26 contest, had signally failed to invite any of the party's prominent moderates to speak on his behalf.

Apart from Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, who is to appear in Crosby two days before polling, the only other Shadow Cabinet member listed to address public meetings is Mr Benn.

Mr Backhouse, aged 28 and a mathematics teacher at a local comprehensive school, has made no secret of his support for the policies advocated by Mr Benn. Because of that it would have been difficult for Labour leaders like Mr Denis Healey, Mr Peter Shore or Mr Roy Hattersley to support him with any public display of enthusiasm.

But in the wake of the renewed confrontation between Mr Benn and the Shadow Cabinet his prominence in the campaign promises to cause some embarrassment

Mr Backhouse said yesterday: "The speakers coming here are speakers from the Labour Party. I have no wish to get into this polarization business; it is a united party in this election. We are not announcing meetings saying: 'Come and see this man, he is on the left; come and see this man, he is ever so slightly, suspiciously on the right.'".

Mr John Butcher, the Conservative prospective candidate, yesterday repudiated any suggestion that the Government was pursuing right-wing policies. He said: "I am quite satisfied that the approach which is being taken by the present Government is not left wing or right wing but an approach which is designed to honestly and fairly put right the structural problems of the British economy".

Mrs Shirley Williams, the Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance prospective candidate, appeared happy to allow Mr Butcher to defend the Government's record while Mr Backhouse advocated left-wing Labour policies.

She said at her press conference that the difficulties of Crosby, Formby and Maghull could not be isolated from those of Liverpol. "It is an illusion to suppose that what happens to Liverpool does not blight the prospects of the more prosperous towns of this division", she said,

Councils examine decision on GLC

Two authorities face threat of legal action

By Robin Young and David Walker

Leaders of Britain's metropolitan authorities were yesterday scouring the statute books and Court of Appeal judgments to discover ways in which their low fare schemes differ from those of the GLC, which were ruled illegal on Tuesday.

Two of the authorities, West Midlands and Merseyside, face the threat of legal action similar to that which the Conservative council of Bromley successfully brought against the GLC.

Of the two, the most exposed is West Midlands, where a 25 per cent cut in fares was implemented on September 6, one month before the GLC launched its "fares fair" scheme. The West Midlands council already faces three actions contesting the legality of the supplementary rate demands it is making to finance the cuts.

The actions, brought by British Leyland and GKN, large industrial ratepayers in the area, and by the West Midlands Ratepayers' Federation, are expected to be heard later this month or early in December.

In the year to last March, the council's revenue support to the West Midland Transport Executive totalled £18.17m.

The estimated cost of the reduced fare package introduced on September 6 was £17.9m in lost revenue in a full year.

West Midlands ratepayers have been faced with a supplementary rate demand of 14p in the pound, of which 4.8p is to finance the council's new transport policy.

In Merseyside, Liverpool City Council, which has refused to collect a supplementary rate of 6p in the pound demanded by Merseyside Metropolitan County Council, is taking fresh legal advice in the light of the Court of Appeal's decision.

The Labour group, which took control of Merseyside in May, set aside a fare increase of 15 per cent, which was to have been introduced on July 1. Instead, it reduced fares by nearly 12 per cent on October 4, the day the GLC introduced its scheme.

South Yorkshire's support for public transport now represents 65 per cent of the transport executive's budget. Income from fares is £21.75m, and the council's support £52.9m, of which £32m is for general fares subsidy.

In Greater Manchester fares have also been frozen by the Labour controlling group, but there has been no supplementary rate precept.

Some ratepayers in London might find Tuesday's Court of Appeal decision an excuse to pay no further rates at all this year, London borough treasurers said yesterday as they counted the cost of the ruling.

However Mr Terence Clowry, treasurer of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, spoke for his fellow officials in promising that while councils would make no effort to collect supplementary rates, they would summon and prosecute any ratepayers wilfully refusing to pay their general rates.

The London Transport executive, whose chairman Sir Peter Masefield, was criticized in court for lacking authority, said it was studying the decision. Sir Peter is abroad on business.

At County Hall, the GLC's lawyers are puzzling over various aspects of the Appeal Court ruling. Lord Denning made specific references to the 6.1p precept—levied to pay London Transport an extra subsidy of some £117m: his decision was to quash this precept. Yet only 3.6p of this was meant to subsidize the Labour manifesto policy of cutting bus and Tube fares.

The rest was for the transport authority's "ordinary" deficit of £25m and to make various other adjustments in the structure of fares.

By the time of Tuesday's judgment, London councils had passed to the GLC only a small amount of the total supplementary levy they were supposed to collect on its behalf: £15m, 8 per cent of the total. All councils will now freeze their payments until the Law Lords resolve the case.

Ratepayers were advised to do likewise by the City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce. It has sent a letter to members advising that the chamber may take further legal action against the GLC, even if the Lords reject the Appeal Court verdict.

The Appeal Court decision is being studied with care at the Department of the Environment. One of the oddities of the case is that the decision of Lord Denning could, if upheld, result in an increase in government expenditure. If the GLC cannot pay an extra subsidy to London Transport, then its outlays could fall to a level that would attract Government grants of around £100m.

How decision was made

The Court of Appeal's judgment in the Bromley case was based to a large extent on the wording of the London Transport Act, 1969 (Marcel Berlins writes). Local authorities in other parts of the country, however, are bound by a different law, the Transport Act, 1968.

The wording of Section 1 of the Act applying to London imposes a general duty on the GLC "to develop policies and to encourage, organize and, where appropriate, carry out measures, which will promote the provision of integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Greater London".

The Court of Appeal interpreted the word "economic" as requiring the GLC to run transport along business lines.

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MP suggests way to avoid abuses in leaders' poll

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A method of eliminating abuses in the new electoral college system for electing the Labour Party's leader and deputy leader which was first used at the annual conference at Brighton in September, has been proposed by a Labour MP.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr and a member of the Tribune Group, suggests that the parliamentary party should promote an amendment to the Trade Union Act, 1913, which would provide that all trade union members paying the political levy to the Labour Party should be consulted in elections.

Mr Rooker, writing in *Labour Weekly*, says his suggested reform is the only method to bring forward 51 different forms of trade union democracy. He also argues that the unions' block vote should be split in proportion to the votes cast by its members.

"It is quite ludicrous that all of a union's vote goes to one candidate." He contends that the party's national executive could make such a change, without a constitutional amendment having to go to the conference, before the college is used again.

□ Mr Denis Healey, Labour's deputy leader, yesterday added his voice to the call by moderate Labour MPs for Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, to act against extremist groups. Some "cleaning up" was required in the Labour movement, he said.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's *Analysis* programme, he said that he was worried by the extent to which little Trotskyite revolutionary groups, who did not believe in parliamentary democracy, had been able to join local Labour parties and be active in the trade union movement.

NO CHALLENGE TO DU CANN

Mr Edward du Cann, MP for Taunton, was reelected unopposed yesterday as chairman of the 1922 Committee, comprising all Tory backbenchers. There had been moves to challenge Mr du Cann for the job, one of the most important in the party,

There will be a contest for the two vice-chairmanships. Those now holding that office, Sir Paul Bryan (Howden) and Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes), are challenged by Mr Marcus Fox (Shipley) and Mr Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley).

Owen attack mystery

By a Staff Reporter

Sussex University said yesterday that it had been unable to identify those responsible for throwing tomatoes at Dr David Owen, a joint leader of the Social Democratic Party.

It denied a claim by Mrs Jackie Barnes, a Brighton councillor, who said after the incident on Tuesday that meetings at the university were often disrupted and that many speakers did not last longer than five or six minutes.

That was dismissed as nonsense by Miss Caroline Broadway, the university's information officer, and as very unfair by Mr David Hellens, president of the student's union.

Miss Broadway said: "It is many years since a political meeting on this campus had to be cut short because a speaker could not say what he wanted to say. In the past year or so I have been to all the most likely contentious meetings at this campus and have not experienced anything."

Mrs Barnes later conceded that she was "probably exaggerating". The half-dozen Sussex University meetings she had attended before yesterday had not been disrupted.

Mr Hellens said there had been trouble at one or two meetings. Mr Peter Young, speaking at a meeting of the Federation of Conservative Students, had a bucket of water thrown at him last year.

Mr Julian Amery, the Conservative MP, had been disrupted, but many relatively unpopular speakers had had their say.

Both he and Miss Broadway said the incident with Dr Owen had involved only one or two people in an audience of 500, and was over in 30 seconds. He had spoken and answered questions for about an hour before the disturbances. Mr Hellens pointed out that students who blocked Dr Owen's pursuit of the culprit were stewards appointed by the SDP club, which had arranged the meeting.

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NURSES TO SEEK PAY REVIEW

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Nurses began a campaign yesterday to gain recognition by the Government that they must be treated as a special case in the next pay round.

The Royal College of Nursing, the biggest nursing union, is to hold 12 regional meetings over the next two months to press MPs to take up their case.

It is going to demand not just a pay rise in line with inflation, about 12 per cent, instead of the Government's 4 per cent limit, but a review at the way nurses' pay is determined.

Nurses are talking more and more about industrial action because of their bitterness, Mr Anthony Nicholson, deputy director of the college's labour relations department, said.

The college produced figures to show that a first-year police constable earned £20 a week more than a staff nurse with three years' training, £108 a week compared with £85.58.

P & O face lightning strikes over Ulster ferries

From John Witherow, Liverpool

The National Union of Seamen may recommend sporadic strikes on P & O ships later this month to force the company back to the negotiating table over the closure of the Liverpool-Belfast ferry service.

P & O officially closed the 150-year-old link yesterday, although the occupation of the two ferries by about 160 seamen in Liverpool had stopped the service since the weekend.

Industrial action has prevented six other P & O freighters from sailing from ports in the North-west and Ipswich. Local union officials are to meet national officers today to decide on any other immediate measures.

The occupation in Liverpool will continue unless P & O agrees to reopen the route or unless a buyer makes commitments over wages and jobs.

The union's ferry port chairmen will meet on November 20 to decide an overall strategy. A national strike seems out of the question; the union seems to favour sporadic stoppages on P & O's fleet

The union has no doubt that the Government is serious over its refusal to intervene, but it is aware of talks with at least two private operators

□ A double figure percentage pay increase is likely to be awarded to farm workers by the Agricultural Wages Board, which is to resume discussions today with the National Farmers' Union and the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers (John Young writes). The NUAAW says a 30 per cent increase is needed to bring farm workers into line with industrial manual workers.

Bar entry to be cut

By Our Legal Correspondent

The Bar, unable to cope with the numbers wanting to become lawyers, is to impose stricter requirements on students wanting to take Bar examinations and to restrict the numbers taking the vocational training course needed to practise.

From 1984 a graduate wanting to sit the Bar examinations will normally have to have at least a second-class honours degree. At present a degree at any class is enough.

Places on the vocational course which students normally take before they are allowed to practise will be limited to 1,000 from the 1982-83 session. Preference will be given to those intending to practise at the English bar.

The decision to raise the standards of entry has been seen by some barristers from the ethnic minorities as a move to reduce the number of foreign and immigrant lawyers, an allegation vigorously denied by the Bar authorities.

MEN OF THE YEAR HONOURED

A lifeboat coxswain, an RAF rescue helicopter pilot, a policeman crippled in the course of duty, a champion sprinter and a top snooker player were among the 11 chief guests at the annual Men of the Year organized by the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation yesterday.

Another man honoured was the hero of the Iranian Embassy siege, Police Constable Trevor Lock.

PC Lock met his fellow hostages, Mr Sim Harris and Mr Christopher Cramer, the BBC television newsmen

Another policeman who was honoured by the association was Constable Philip Olds. He was permanently paralysed when shot when chasing men who had raided an off-licence in Hayes, west London.

Mr Charles Bowry, lifeboat coxswain at Sheerness, Kent, was another guest. He rescued three men in a force nine gale.

Allan Wells, the sprinter and Steve Davis, the snooker player, were also honoured, together with Flight Lieutenant Michael Lakey, who captained a Seaking helicopter which saved 22 people from a blazing ship.

Chief Rabbi defends babies' right to life

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi and leader of the Jewish community in Britain, yesterday condemned the killing of handicapped babies by any act calculated to induce death, including starvation.

Dr Leonard Arthur, a paediatrician from Derby, was last week cleared of attempting to murder a new-born baby suffering from Down's Syndrome.

Sir Immanuel said that every innocent human life was infinitely precious and that the views of a baby's parents and the views of the doctors were irrelevant.

"The value of a human life can never be affected by its state of health, expectancy of life or usefulness to society", he said. "Any grading of human beings into those with a 'superior' and others with an 'inferior' claim to life is utterly repugnant to Judaism."

Jews were particularly sensitive to any such discrimination, having witnessed the horror of six million being sent to the gas chambers because they were deemed inferior, he said.

"But the principle is universal, an imperative especially urgent at this time when human life is being cheapened through the rampant rise of violence and terrorism at one level and the widespread advocacy to legalize snuffing out the lives, or potential lives, of 'undesirables' by euthanasia and indiscriminate abortions on another level."

The absolute and infinite value of a human being's life was intrinsic and quite independent of that person's quality of life, but even if that were not the case it was impossible to determine what that quality would be, either for the individual or their family.

Nor was it for doctors to pass such purely moral judgments. Their duty was to heal and relieve suffering. For all these reasons, Jewish law regards the deliberate destruction of any innocent human life, in whatever state of debility, as criminal homicide.

"This moral culpability extends to any act calculated to induce death, including starvation. But some Jewish authorities draw a distinct line between an active hastening of death or the withdrawal of natural means to sustain life (for example food) and the suspension of artificial, or 'heroic', methods to prolong the agony in its terminal stage."

Bringing up the Dauphin

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A moving document of royal maternity was sold at Sotheby's yesterday. It was a character sketch of her son the Dauphin written by Marie Antoinette for his new governess 11 days after the fall of the Bastille.

It sold for £10,780 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000) to an unnamed private collector. The Dauphin died in squalor six years after the memorandum was written, when he was four.

The six-page memorandum was sent for sale by an English noble family and was bought by a foreigner. It will require an export licence.

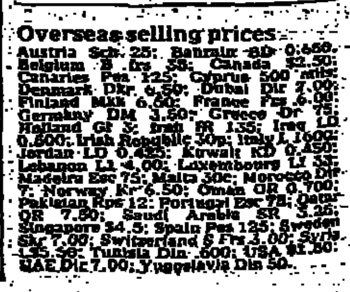
The sale of autograph manuscripts and letters ran much in line with expectations (9 per cent unsold). The autograph manuscript of Offenbach's opera, Robinson Crusoe, was sold for £12,650.

A collection of Mussolini's speeches, drafted in his own hand, together with drafts of the constitution of the Fascist Council, made £9,020 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000).

Sotheby's sale of modern British paintings, drawings and sculpture set some new records without achieving an exceptionally high overall level of prices (19 per cent unsold). A pastel view of the "Fish Market, San Barnaba", of 1876-80, by James Abbott McNeill Whistler, brought £12,100 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000), an auction record for the artist.

From more modern times, the £6,160 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000) paid by Montpelier Studio for Ivon Hitchens' "Dark Landscape", of 1944, tops previous auction prices for that artist.

Overseas sales were in difficulties. Christie's two-day auction of Chinese and Japanese art in New York was 42 per cent unsold.


Overseas selling prices: Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.600; Belgium B frs 38; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 500 mils; Denmark Dkr 6.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 6.00; France Frs 6.00; Germany DM 3.60; Greece Dr 70; Holland Gl 3; Iran RR 135; Iraq ID 0.800; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1,000; Jordan ID 0.450; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 6.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 75; Qatar QR 7.00; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland Frs 3.00; Syria S£ 5.00; Tunisia Din .600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Reith lecturer questions existence of arms race

By Kenneth Gosling and Henry Stanhope

The existence of an East-West arms race was questioned in the first of this year's BBC Reith lectures last night.

Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, said on Radio 4 that the proportion of the United States gross national product spent on defence fell from 9.1 per cent in 1960, before the Vietnam war, to 5.2 per cent now.

The military share of the federal budget was more than halved during the same period from 49 to 23 per cent. President Reagan's new arms programme would raise it by only 1 per cent next year, Professor Martin said.

Money spent on strategic arms during the 1970s was only two-thirds of the sum spent in the 1960s, which had been only two-thirds that in the previous decade.

In Britain, although defence spending had risen in real terms by between 5 and 10 per cent since 1973, it had fallen as a proportion of GNP from more than 8 to about 5 per cent in the past 20 years or so.

The analysis of arms control by Professor Martin is certain to set light again to the controversy over broadcasting and defence arguments.

Professor Martin takes issue with the unilateral nuclear disarmers, one of whom, Professor E. P. Thompson, the historian, was earlier this year vetoed by Sir Ian Trethowan, Director General of the BBC, as the choice for the Dimbleby Lecture on television.

That decision was in contrast to the delivery by Dr Nicholas Humphrey, another unilateralist, of the Bronowski memorial lecture.

Professor Martin acknowledged that Russia's defence spending seemed to have risen by more than 4 per cent a year in the last decade. But even that was much less than it could have managed. According to a recent estimate, the Soviet Union could have increased its military budget by an annual 7 per cent without going as far as to mobilize for war.

"I am not asserting that any particular level of defence expenditure is appropiate. I am merely suggesting that the numbers I have been quoting are scarcely what the metaphor of an accelerating, headlong race would suggest", he said.

Professor Martin argued that the effects of the European nuclear disarmament movement discriminated against the West, partly because it was less able to influence opinion in the Soviet Union, but also because Communists saw detente as a better opportunity to pursue conflict with the non-Communist world.

Professor Martin said he believed the West's constant aim should be to find ways of preserving its interests without provoking others.

"Thus, I believe that arms control should be both more and less than some uncritical exponents suggest; more, because it can never be a substitute for defence", he said.

Far too many people who had an urgent need to mitigate the dangers of armed force and unbridled military confrontation felt obliged to attack the idea of national defence. Such attitudes bred intellectual confusion, half-truths and error, Professor Martin said.

He entitled his talk "If You Knows of a Better 'Ole", taking his theme from the Bruce Bairnsfather cartoon of the 1914-18 War. The advice of the veteran soldier to the raw and nervous recruit, both cowering in a waterlogged shell hole in no man's land, summed up, he said, his view of our strategic situation.

"It is a miserably dangerous one. But after some years of surveying the no man's land of strategic theory I have yet to find a better hole than our present balace of power."

The overall title of the series is "The Two-Edged Sword" and it deals with the role of armed force in the modern world. Professor Martin said that for two reasons it was not enough to make a simple renunciation of nuclear weapons. First, although it was important to avoid a nuclear war, that was not the only purpose of a national security policy.

"It is possible to design strategies that offer a fair prospect of avoiding both nuclear war and many other unfavourable outcomes to international conflict, not falling, for instance, under the dominant influence of Soviet power."

Second, he did not believe there was any infallible way to avoid nuclear war, even at any political price, now that the weapons had been invented.

The lecture will be repeated on Radio 3 on Sunday.



Now a truly common entrance

Fiona Finch, aged 13 (foreground above), helped to make history this week when she sat her common entrance examination at Sherborne Preparatory School, Dorset, for it was the first time that girls took the same papers as boys on the main subjects of English, mathematics, French and science. Yesterday was the final day of the obligatory papers for the 1,400 autumn candidates. Today they will be stting optional papers, and they should know within a few weeks whether they have secured places in public schools. The 13-plus examination papers were based on a joint syllabus devised and agreed by the boys' common entrance committee and the girls' board. The joint examination is the culmination of five years' work. In a complete year nearly 14,000 pupils, 10,000 boys and 4,000 girls, sit the common entrance examination, which was first set in 1904.

Students in teaching courses to be cut

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The University Grants Committee (UGC) has decided that the numbers of students taking postgraduate certificates in education (PGCE) courses, other than those in shortage subjects, should be cut by nearly a third in all universities.

The reduction will be equal in all institutions, regardless of differing provisions.

Letter have been sent to the 31 universities which have departments of education informing them of their new intake targets for PGCE courses next autumn. They are asked to protect student numbers in the subjects in which there is still a shortage of specialist teachers: mathematics, physics, chemistry, Welsh, and craft, design and technology.

The size of the cuts appears to differ between universities, but that is only a reflection of the varying proportion of students on the so-called shortage subject courses; 1979-80 has been taken as the base year.

If that is taken out of the equation, the reduction in all other courses will be seen to be about 30 per cent in each university.

That is the size of cut that the UGC found was necessary to achieve a 20 per cent reduction in the intake into PGCE courses next year which the Government announced earlier this month. The committee decided against making cuts on a selective basis between institutions.

The UGC makes no mention in its letter of target figures for the intake into Bachelor of Education (BEd) courses. However, the Government has said that it "does not think it would be right" for institutions to recruit more students in 1982 than in 1980 or 1981; the intake in those last two years was respectively about 40 and 30 per cent lower than planned.

Cuts will delay medical research

By Pearce Wright,
Science Editor

Important medical research will be delayed because of government cuts in university funds, Dr John Gowans, secretary of the Medical Research Council, said yesterday. He described the economies as savage and as striking at the foundations on which medical research is built.

Introducing the annual report accounting for £93m spent last year by the council on research in universities, hospitals and in its own laboratories, Dr Gowans outlined special measures to help research groups over short-term difficulties of one or two years. But that action, he said, would mean deferring other projects.

The council was sending a letter to universities with ideas for safeguarding the best medical research teams. Nevertheless, by the end of last year the council could not fund all the applications that merited support.

He expressed anxiety that the cuts would damage irreparably the dual support system by which funds come from the research councils and the University Grants Committee (UGC), which has cuts grants over the next four years to universities. Part of that money was earmarked for the most fundamental phase of research, Dr Gowans said. It paid for that period of freedom when ideas were developing from speculation.

"We depend on that initial freedom as a stable base on which we build".

But the UGC has said medical research will not be further protected. The research council, therefore, expects to be mounting rescue operations to save some of the top research groups. In the case of particularly gifted workers, a 10-year bridging grant could be considered to ensure that outstanding individuals are not lost to medical research.

Minister attacked over refusal to aid BR

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, was accused yesterday of condemning London rail commuters to conditions "unacceptable in the transport of cattle".

Mr Russell Tuck, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, made the criticism after Mr Howell had told British Rail that it cannot expect more taxpayers' money to help it to solve its difficulties.

British Rail said that Mr Howell's statement offers us no solution. It offers no guidance as to where we can go, and no hope for any improvement in services in London and the South-east. We cannot keep up renewing equipment as fast as we need to, so the overall trend must be downward."

Mr Howell was responding to British Rail's document issued in March on policy options for the commuter services.

He said: "I am aware of the widespread discontent of commuters with the quality of London rail services, but in present circumstances we cannot solve the problems simply by expecting the taxpayer to provide yet more financial support for them.

"If the commuter network were to be provided quickly throughout with brand new trains, this could only be at the expense of the general taxpayer or much higher fares. I believe the right approach is to set modest aims, based on lowering costs and improving efficiency, without increases in real fares, to provide the passenger with a cleaner and more reliable version of the present services."

The aims, he said, should be to maintain existing services while adjusting them to meet demand; "as far as possible" to improve cleanliness, punctuality and reliability, to pay for those improvements by economies and some changes in the services provided, without increasing fares beyond the rate of inflation.

British Rail said that Mr Howell was, by implication, choosing the low quality of service options that it had outlined. That meant more commuters having to stand on peak hour services and only marginal improvements in punctuality and reliability.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission had recognized, British Rail said, that productivity alone could not provide the answer. Mr Howell had outlined, as BR had done, ways the service could be improved, "but he has given us no clue as to how we can achieve that".

Mr Tuck said: "The transport minister's statement effectively condemns rail travellers in the South-east to cutbacks, drastically reduced services and conditions which would be unacceptable in the transport of cattle". The Government had run away from its obligations.

Work tests boycott threatened

By Pat Healey
Social Services Correspondent

Government plans to strengthen "availability for work" tests for the employed may provoke a Civil Service dispute in the New Year. Leaders of the two main unions involved are being asked by their employment sections to sanction a boycott of the tests, which are due to begin in 20 unemployment benefit offices in January.

If the national executives of the Society of Civil and Public Servants and the Civil and Public Services Association agree, members would be instructed to boycott the new tests and could then face suspension.

The employment sections have agreed jointly to consult their members in the 20 offices affected and to explain their opposition.

The tests are to be introduced as an experiment after a study supervised by Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on efficiency, suggested that money could be saved by ending compulsory registration as unemployed as a condition for receiving benefit.

The unions fear that voluntary registration, expected to start next October, would lead to the closure of jobcentres, where registration now takes place. That would mean fewer Civil Servants and a poorer service to the long-term unemployed.

The tests add one question to the form that applicants for unemployment benefit are asked to complete. It asks if claimants would accept a job "like your usual one or like your last one", and explains that that means, with similar pay, hours and conditions.

Most people answering "yes" will have their claim dealt with as normal, but those who have been out of work for six months who answer "yes" and those who say "no" are to be asked to complete a second form.

That asks questions about availabitiy for work, whether the claimant will take full-time work, whether he or she can start immediately, and whether the claimant would be willing to move to find work.

The tenor of the new form is being interpreted by the unions as an attempt to press long-term unemployed people and those caring for children, mainly married women and single parents, into accepting jobs they do not want or dropping their claims.

The Department of Employment has told the two unions that the new questions will not be compulsory, given the present state of the law.

Crash victim acted bizarre imitation of former life

A car crash victim was awarded £190,000 agreed damages in the High Court yesterday for head injuries which reduced his life to what counsel described as a bizarre imitation of what it had once been.

Mr Roger Dearsley, married, with three young children, had looked forward to taking over the chairmanship of his family's garage business. But a collision between his car and another vehicle five years ago wrecked his life, the judge was told.

Now, at the age of 38, Mr Dearsley was in a psychiatric unit. His marriage had ended in divorce and the family business had been sold. At best he could look forward to life in a special hostel; at worst he would live in a Cheshire home, Mr John Peppitt, QC, told Mr Justice Park.

"His brain injuries produced rather bizarre consequences; a type of euphoria where he disregards any consequence of the accident and seeks to continue to lead his life as if it had never happened", Mr Peppitt said.

After the accident, although he was incapable of resuming his job as manager of one of the garages owned by the family in Staines, Surrey, he would leave home each morning and go to a café nearby which he regarded as his office. "There he started on grandiose schemes of expansion to the garage", counsel said.

Mr Peppitt said the agreed damages award, against the driver of the other vehicle, Mr Kenneth Aspinall, of Upway, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, took account of a 20 per cent reduction for contributory negligence by Mr Dearsley because he had not been wearing a seat belt.

HAPPY END AT TV MOTEL

Meg Mortimer is alive, well and on her way to a new life, probably in Australia, oblivious of the fire which wrecked her Crossroads motel. She missed the blaze and news of it was withheld from her by her daughter Jill in a tearful farewell on board the QE2. Television viewers of *Crossroads* last night discovered that ATV chose a happy farewell from the series for Meg Mortimer, played by Noele Gordon. It was one of five possibilities, the rest of which were sad.

Despite the sadness of the parting, millions of *Crossroads* viewers breathed a sigh of relief when they discovered that Meg Mortimer had not perished.

Nurse inquest plea victory

From Our Correspondent

The father of Helen Smith, the British nurse who died in Saudi Arabia more than two years ago, has won a High Court judical review of his plea for an inquest.

Mr Ronald Smith, has fought a long battle to have an inquest in Britain. But the authorities insisted that they had no jurisdiction to hold an inquest into the death of someone who died abroad.

Mr Justice Forbes, sitting in private on Tuesday, granted an application by Mr Smith for a High Court hearing to consider whether an inquest can be held.

The hearing, in open court, will be before two judges of the Queen's Bench Division, probably next month.

Mr Smith, a former policeman, of Eshott Avenue, Guiseley, Leeds brought his daughter's body back to Leeds from Jiddah in June, 1980. Since then he has travelled to Australia and elsewhere in what he sees as a quest for justice.

He was not in court on Tuesday. The judge considered the matter solely on documents put before him.

Mr Smith contends that Mr Philip Gill the West Yorkshire Coroner, was wrong in deciding that he had no jurisdiction to hold an inquest after inquiries were intitiated by another Leeds coroner.

The Saudi authorities decided that Miss Smith aged 23, and a Dutchman fell accidently to their deaths from the balcony of a top-floor flat in Jiddah. Mr Smith believes his daughter was murdered.

PARLIAMENT November 11 1981

Howe predicts slower fall in inflation

COMMONS

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in the Commons that he did not believe they would see inflation falling in the next 12 months as fast as it had in the last 18 months. The recent fall in the exchange rate must for a time involve some pressure in the opposite direction. But the trend should, he considered, remain downwards.

He also stated that for some time to come earnings in real terms were bound to be lower. Any adverse effect on consumption because of that had to be set alongside the beneficial effects from the additional overtime and less short-time working.

He was speaking in the resumed debate on the Queen's Speech and replying to Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, who declared that the country was living through a tragedy the dimensions and consequences of which they had scarcely begun to grasp.

Mr Shore was moving an amendment to the motion for a loyal address in reply to the Queen's speech regretting the Government "has decided to continue its disastrous economic policies which have already resulted in record levels of unemployment and loss of output and that the Queen's Speech does not contain any measures which even begin to deal with the grave economic problems which now face the country."

He said they were entering a process of collapse greater than in any other industrial country. As well as firms and jobs disappearing, they were witnessing plant and machinery being auctioned off to competitors in developed and developing countries. This could only be put right by massive new investment.

It was true the base rate had fallen by half a per cent, some large contracts had been won, and industrial output had risen half a per cent in the past month, but that was trivial and no more than crumbs of hope.

If the Prime Minister was ready to talk about some firms who had had successes, what had she to say about the many which had simply ceased to exist?

The gap between pay settlements and the rate of inflation was almost unparalleled. Industrial investment would continue to fall in view of the cuts to come in the public sector. How severe these cuts were would be seen when the Cabinet discussions had been completed.

The country was in a downward spiral of decline so deep as to be almost without comparison and on a scale that almost defied analogy in recent history. And this was happening at precisely the time when the full flood of North Sea oil was at last reaching our shores.

The Queen's Speech was a bald uncompromising restatement of the policies of the last two and a half years.

In her speech on November 4, Mrs Thatcher made astonishing assertions that her disastrous policies would, not in some distant future but in the next 12 months, be transformed into visible success. There was evidence, not of real world changes, but of an increasing flight from reality, a world of make-believe, into which Mrs Thatcher was increasingly withdrawing.

She genuinely thought that unemployment mattered less than inflation. Last year she was telling the unemployed to leave their homes and go to other places where work was still available. This year she has left it to Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, to tell people to get on their bikes and find work.

Her best defence was that unemployment was inevitable while inflation continued. From that dubious proposition, she allowed herself to argue that she was actually creating employment by reducing inflation, even when unemployment had more than doubled and inflation, in spite of all her endeavours, remained stubbornly high.

If Mrs Thatcher thought it was a peculiarly British weakness that led to the great growth of unemployment, that it was due to low productivity, to unreasonable trade unions and to wrong attitudes of mind, how did she explain the trebling of unemployment in every part of the Western world? Had they, too, suddenly become lazy, unproductive and over-demanding since 1979?

The Prime Minister and her Chancellor thought that all the nation's problems were due to the fact that it had paid itself too much. That was why the old and discredited medium-term financial policy was not only to be retained but reinforced by measures which, in the Prime Minister's words, would alter the balance of power between labour and management.

To be safe inside her own intellectual and moral prison, the Prime Minister had to assert again and again, with parrot-like persistence: "There is no alternative". Hardly anyone of intellectual substance in the country now held her view.

There was hardly a reputable body of opinion—industrial, political and in the City, including some of the most intelligent members of her own party—that was not now urging a substantial increase in public expenditure.

Of course there would be the problem of the PSBR, but this was already enormously inflated by high unemployment by somewhere between, according to choice, the Government's own figure of over £8,000m per annum and the recent Manpower Services Commission figure of no less than £12,500m per annum.

In the absence of exchange controls, billions of pounds of British money was going abroad to foreign havens. And there was nothing to suggest that there was any automatic relationship between the volume of borrowing and interest rate levels.

The obsession, the madness, the theoretical nonsense of the Chicago school had been so sedulously propagated and had imprisoned those who from the start were only too willing to be imprisoned by this doctrine.

Reflation needed strong supporting policies. There was the possibility that an increase in public spending and economic expansion could find its way into increased earnings and costs and increased prices for those already at work. It was here that a new and strong understanding with the trade union movement, together with effective price control, would play a major part.

There were those who dismissed a new understanding as being undesirable or ineffective. But his own confidence rested on the overriding priority to reduce unemployment.

Where that understanding exists (he continued) and where the links and connexions between government, particularly the Labour Party and the trade union movement, are properly forged, we have bonds which, though light as air are as strong as hoops of steel. (Conservative laughter.)

He had no illusions about the problems which would be bequeathed to Labour nor about the difficulties of finding solutions, but there was an alternative strategy, Labour's strategy.

It is one (he said) which offers new hope to the British people. In contrast, the economic proposals in the Queen's Speech offer nothing but decline and despair.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer (East Surrey, C), said successive governments of both parties had all fallen victim to the temptation to alter or displace the framework of economic and financial discipline which they had set. This was the real reason why, during the past 20 years, successive governments had not been able to achieve their economic objectives.

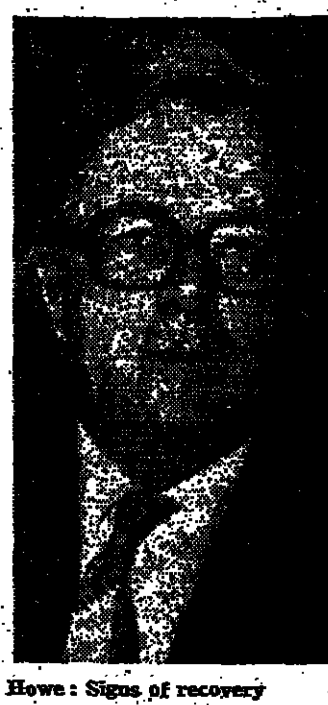
He did not suggest that those whose policies had not prevailed were not entitled to criticize the Government but they should remember the moments when they, too, had been criticized for obstinacy in defence of the realities and disciplines that they had regarded as essential.

The whole world was experiencing the ravages of persistent, unevenly controlled inflation and economic stagnation while still adjusting to the effects of the major oil shock. It was important to see British problems in the international perspective.

It was essential not to relax efforts to fight inflation, but to sustain those efforts with determination. Sustained sound growth required that inflation was first brought under control.

The burden of Government spending, borrowing and taxation was too high. Any sensible government must be reluctant to continue further increases in any. It was much more than a coincidence that the long period of decline this country had experienced had been one in which public spending as a share of total national resources had risen from 33 per cent in 1960 to 44 per cent in 1980.

Planned investment in the


Howe: Signs of recovery


Shore: Firm bond with unions

nationalized industries this year was 15 per cent higher than a year ago. We are anxious (he went on) to find ways of involving private capital directly in the nationalized industries. That could bring the industries, as it should, more under the influence of market forces.

One particular proposal we are examining at the moment is for a bond to be issued by British Telecom in which the return to investors will be based on the profits of British Telecom.

We have always made it clear that any such proposals must meet two important conditions. There must be an appropriate degree of risk for the investor and our cost to the borrower must not be excessive. Current proposals must be strictly assessed against these standards.

He had been asked when the recovery was to take place and what the Government could hold out for the timing of that change.

The pace of our recovery (he said) is bound to be affected by the speed with which the other major industrial countries emerge from the current world recession. That depends to a large extent on their success in bringing down their own inflation rate. The same applies to this country.

The development most likely to bring recovery here is a further continued reduction of our inflation and costs. This year inflation has been brought down to 11½ per cent and unit wage costs were virtually unchanged for the first half of this year: Competitiveness of British industry so far this year has improved by 10 per cent.

The fall in exchange rates and the sharp jump in productivity in the first six months of 1981 had set the scene for a return to profitability, which was the essential precondition for investment and jobs. The export volume showed how well British firms had risen to the challenge of recession.

Output had now stopped falling and manufacturing output was showing signs of recovery.

What we need (he added) to sustain that progress is a further reduction in inflation and wage costs.

He did not seek to diminish the importance of securing the widest possible understanding from the trade union movement about the need for that.

I do not believe (he continued) that we shall see inflation falling in the next 12 months as fast as it has in the last 18 months. The recent fall in the exchange rate must for a time involve some pressure in the opposite direction. The trend should remain downwards.

For some time to come earnings in real terms are bound to be lower. Any adverse effect on consumption because of that has to be set alongside the beneficial effects from the additional overtime and less short-time working.

It was crucial that cost competitiveness and the level of output should improve. That was the way recovery could come about. Provided the facts were explained to them fairly and they were not distracted by alternative policies: the nation would respond to this understanding.

What we must avoid (he concluded) is yet another attempt at the behest of the Labour Party or anyone else, to tear up the economic rule book and kick over the traces—attempts of the kind that have destroyed the efforts of previous administrations to attain recovery.

We do not intend to repeat past mistakes of that kind. We intend to adhere to the framework of our strategy. (Conservative cheers.)

The Opposition amendment to the loyal address in reply to the Queen's Speech criticizing the Government's policy on North Sea oil and gas and on the coal industry was rejected by 298 votes to 249 at the end of Tuesday's debate.

During the later stages of the debate,

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab) said interest rates should be brought down and the exchange control should be re-established. The financial restraint on public and private investment programmes, housing in particular, should be loosened.

Government resources should be used to achieve the most crucial objective of all—an agreement with organised labour on cost constraint with a national procedure for sustaining it. This had to be done if the country was to recover.

In the next stage, general demand should be allowed to expand to the levels that would bring all resources reasonably soon into production. A moderate tariff should be restored for a time on manufactured imports.

Mr Maurice Macmillan (Farnham, C) said the time had come for some changes in the emphasis of *Government policy* though he was not suggesting a move towards the sort of reflationary, inflationary ideas put forward by the Opposition.

There were considerable risks involved but there were great risks, too, *in doing nothing*. More public investment was needed, especially for the sort of projects which would bring work and contracts to the private sector to get it going again and so that it could start employing people.

The Government should use procurement policies more positively to help the country. It was false economy to buy abroad when it was not necessary.

He wanted *Government* help to industry geared much more to innovation, and a much more consistent pattern of help to research and development. The Government confined its polices too much to the negative side of coping with inflation and had not given hope to the people.

Mr William Rodgers (Teeside Stockton, SDP) said Labour policies were irrelevant and insensitive. It was outrageous to speak of nationalization, including renationalization without compensation.

There was no intrinsic virtue in legislation in industrial relations. A great deal depended on the public perception of the behaviour of the trade unions. Mr Alex Kitson seemed to have declared his colours plainly.

He would like to know from the official Opposition whether they would disown any attempt to use industrial action through the tanker drivers' strike to bring the *Government down*.

It would be a negation of the role of a responsible trade union leader or a responsible political party to support any idea of industrial action in that way. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Huddersfield, West, C) said that local government seemed incapable of cutting expenditure. This was because if the sums were wrong, the ratepayer could pay.

The ratepayers were sick and *tired of the system, yet there* were people on his own side who were weakening on the issue. He would like to see this unfair and unjust rate system abolished.

There was laughter from Labour MPs and Mr Dickens, *pointing towards* the Government front bench, said: One day I shall be sitting there. One day I will earn the privilege to sit down there and when I do you had better watch out. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C) *said he doubted whether the recession* was about to end and feared that there was about to be another wave of redundancies and destocking following the rise in interest rates. More growth was needed to generate more jobs and to reduce *the unemployment rate element* of the public sector borrowing requirement.

The Government should try to get the construction industry off the floor and give a major push to housing improvements because that involved a craft industry which would soak up a great deal of unemployment.

Sir David Price (Eastleigh, C) said the present level of unemployment was socially and *economically* unacceptable. A high rate of inflation was the enemy of full employment.

The Government must encourage the wealth creation and wealth creators at all levels. He made no distinction between the public and private sectors, though he distinguished between the wealth producers and consumers. For too long there had been too many on the consuming side and not enough on the production side.

In the modern world Government and industry had to work together as a partnership. The Government should work rapidly towards a general reduction in interest rates. Britain needed more stability in exchange rates.

The continuing increase in public *utility pricing ahead of the* general increase in prices must be restrained. There should be a reduction, and ultimately the abolition, of the national insurance surcharge.

The Government must continue to give *selective help to industry* and employment. The Government spent too much money supporting the old sunset industries and not enough on the sunrise industries.

Miss Joan Lestor (Eton and Slough, Lab) said the Government could not sustain the situation of cutting public expenditure in housing, education, social welfare and industry and at the same time increasing public expenditure through paying people not to work.

Mr Christopher Patten (Bath, C) said Conservative MPs who had been critical of the Government wanted to find a strategy around *which they could unite, one which* would accomplish the objectives to achieve which the Government was elected

What "One nation" policies did not mean was putting an excessive burden upon the shoulders of


Pym: Government has set sights high

the poor and worst off, re-distributing burdens against them rather than re-distributing help towards them.

He hoped ministers would reject any suggestion that supplementary benefit or unemployment benefit *should* be cut. If they were to attempt to make such cuts they could count not on his support but on his being in the lobbies on the other side of the House.

Mr Edward Leadbitter (Hartlepool, Lab) said the Government's *record was a disaster*. There were old people in his area who sat in the dark and who could not put on their heating because they were scared to death of increasing bills.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L) said if there was any truth *in the statements in the press* that the Government was shortly to increase the national insurance contribution without any equivalent reduction in the national insurance surcharge this would deal a death blow to industrial confidence.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C) said a policy of further deflation would make unemployment much worse. It would be a body blow to industry at a time when some economic revival might just now be in sight, add to the costs of the recession, and sound the death knell of the Government at the next election.

Mr John Silkin, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab), said that the Government was selling off national assets because of incompetent management of public expenditure. That was not conservativism, but old fashioned nineteenth centry liberalism, and he could not think of a worse insult to throw at anyone.

Real Conservatives wanted to try to obtain a national consensus because they believed that a *country* working together was much more effective, happy and efficient than one forever subject to confrontation. But national consensus implied an enormous amount of Government direction and intervention.

It was useless for Mrs Thatcher to say there was no alternative—the alternative was on her back benches.

There could be a united country which understood what it wanted and was prepared to go for it. The Labour Party was in a position, and would increasingly be in a postion in the next two years, to make that possible. (Conservative laughter.)

Labour MPs had to learn a lesson and they would learn it. That was that they needed to be united—(Conservative and SDP laughter)—because if they were not, the British people would not forgive them, just as they had not forgiven the Conservative Government for what it was doing to them now.

Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House (Cambridgeshire, C), said Britain's economic weaknesses were deep-seated and of long standing. They had made the nation doubly vulnerable to world recession.

The Government (he said) detests this slump, this recession. But it is entitled to take credit for our resolute efforts to secure a new sense of realism and to deal with the real problems which other governments have shirked.

The job to be done was long-term. It was to reconstruct the economic framework to provide the opportunities for growth, new industries and new jobs.

That could not be carried out even in the lifetime of one Parliament. It was an ambitious task but why should they settle for anything else? The Government was right to have set its sights high.

The Labour Party were becoming *increasingly* irrelevant in the *discussion* of the nation's affairs. They could not even debate their own internal affairs very successfully.

As for the *Social Democratic* Party, stale claret in new bottles was a confidence trick and a poisoned chalice to the Liberal Party. It should not be mistaken for the elixir of life. (Laughter.)

The Opposition amendment was rejected by 302 votes to 250—Government majority, 52.

The motion for a loyal address *in reply to the Queen's Speech* was carried by 301 votes to 251—Government majority, 50.

Paisley told to attend on Monday

SPEAKER

The Speaker made it clear in a statement following an incident yesterday when two Ulster MPs shouted at the Prime Minister from *the upper gallery that* he wished one of them to be in the House to hear his ruling on Monday on the incident.

The Speaker, Mr George Thomas, said he wished to make a statement on the incident which concerned the conduct of the Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, Dem U) and Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast, East, Dem U).

Last night (he continued) when I had my attention drawn to the reports in the media of the words that were alleged to have been used by both MPs in this House, I gave notice to Mr Paisley that I would *wish* him to be in his usual place to hear what I have to say.

I understand that Mr Paisley has been in the precincts of the House and, indeed, was here when we began our business this *afternoon, but I had a message* from him to say that he could not come to the House because he was receiving a deputation. (Cries of "Oh".)

I must say at once that I strongly deprecate the conduct of *both MPs—(cheers)—in leaving the* Chamber in order to avoid the authority of the Chair as well as if they spoke the words that are alleged to be the words that were uttered.

I therefore propose, since it is *entirely wrong for any MP to be* able to decline to come into the Chamber to answer as to whether he used completely unparliamentary, abusive and offensive words, that I shall deal with the matter on Monday next as though it was this day, which is plenty of notice for Mr Paisley to come to this House.

If he does not come to this House I shall then act in his absence.

Repayment of grant by car firm

SCOTLAND

There was no prospect of another car factory at Linwood, Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, declared at *question time. Replying to Opposition* demands for jobs in the area, he said the first thing to be done was to dismantle the relic of the Linwood car plant and provide modern facilities for modern jobs.

Mr Norman Buchan (West Renfrewshire, Lab) called on the minister to ensure that money *gained by the proposed* sale of plant and machinery by Talbot at their Linwood factory would be returned to the Exchequer.

Mr Fletcher explained that the assets involved were in the ownership of Talbot UK Ltd and their disposal *was primarily* a *matter* for the company.

Regional development grants made to Talbot UK Ltd, formerly Chrysler, are (he said) the subject of a set of conditions which are binding on a company for four *years from the relevant date of* provision of the asset in question.

Matters in connexion with the recovery of grants made in respect of any asset still the subject of conditions are for Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for *Industry*.

Mr Buchan: This will be received with outrage in the West of Scotland. The community have poured vast sums—over £100m of public money—into that factory, including the infrastructure, and none of this is going to come back.

Will he stop the sale and use the plant and machinery which would get *the* unemployed *in my* village of Linwood back to work, and stop this nonsense?

Mr Fletcher: It is not correct that none of the money will come back. If any of the assets come within the four-year period repayment will have to be made to the Department of Industry.

As for his protestations about *the factory and his request that* we should stop the sale, I understand the depth of his feelings. It is shared by every MP, but the Linwood car factory is dead. There is no prospect of another car factory at Linwood.

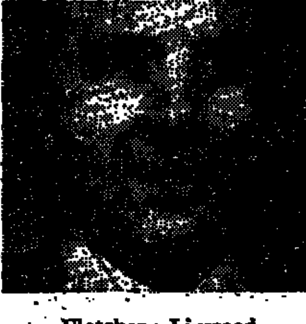
We are doing everything possible to bring new industries and new jobs to the area and this is what his constituents must demand above all else.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee, East, Scot Nat): The outrage in the area is compounded by the advertisement which appeared in many Scottish papers in September headed by Peugeot: "Not every car firm can bring you good news" and at the bottom of the advertisement: "Scotland on the *move*". *It is time this kind of* asset stripping was stopped. With this and BNOC there will soon be nothing left of Scotland.

Mr Fletcher: There is no BNOC at Linwood and the advertisement is not a matter for the Secretary of State or myself.

Mr William Walker (Perth and East Perthshire, C): All experience at Talbot showed clearly that customers create *jobs*. Where you cannot sell the products, there is no future. Will he assure us that he will not, in this Government, make public funds available where commercial prospects are dim, bleak or worse, as they were in the case of Talbot?

Mr Fletcher: The Scottish Office and the Department of Industry have been ready to give financial


Fletcher: Linwood factory is dead.

assistance to every viable investment that will provide new jobs in any part of Scotland.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow Craigton, Lab): It is offensive to tell the people of this area that after the devastation caused by the company and the Government to Linwood, this factory is finished and is to be sold off as the industrial sale of the century.

In view of the special effort the Government is making to bring alternatve jobs to Linwood, how many jobs have actually been brought there, and how many are in prospect?

Mr Fletcher: Every effort is being made to bring new jobs to Linwood. Mr Millan knows better than most Labour MPs that the first thing to be done is to dismantle the relic of the Linwood car plant and provide modern facilities for modern jobs.

Mr Millan: No single new job has come to the Linwood area or is in prospect, despite all the grand talk about special efforts.

Mr Fletcher: The Government and the Scottish Development Agency are doing everything to provide facilities for new jobs to come to Linwood.

☐ Mr Buchan asked the Secretary of State for Industry how much public money had been paid by his department to the firms of Rootes, *Chrysler* and *Talbot* since the beginning of the Rootes car factory in Linwood, in the forms of grants of all kinds, set out in the various categories, and outstanding loans.

Mr John Wakeham, Under Secretary of State, in a written reply, said: Under the agreement signed between the Government and *Chrysler* in 1976 a total of £64m was paid to the company in the form of loss subvention grants. Loans totalling £50m were also made to the company of which £22m has now been repaid, leaving £28m outstanding.

Particulars of assistance to individual companies under the Industry Acts 1972 and 1980 are generally regarded as confidential between *the Department of Industry* and the applicant. However, since October 1, 1974, regional development grants in excess of £25,000 and offers of selective assistance, in excess of £5,000 have been published on a quarterly basis in *British Business* (formerly *Trade and Industry*). Fourteen payments of regional development grants totalling some £2.4m to *Chrysler Scotland Ltd* in respect of their Linwood premises have been published in this way.

Information relating to assistance given to Rootes Ltd or under the Industrial Development Act, 1966 is not available.

Operators interested in ferry

ULSTER LINK

A Government subsidy to keep the Belfast-Liverpool *ferry service* running following the withdrawal by P & O would be fatal because it *would prevent* other operators coming forward, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in a statement.

This was a commercial service which could be run at a profit—but interested parties would not *appear until* the current sit-in had ceased, he said.

Mr Prior said he regarded a ferry service between Liverpool and Belfast as a highly desirable link between the two cities and between England and Northern Ireland. I therefore *regret (he went on) the* decision of P & O, taken for their own commercial reasons, to withdraw the service from today. I regret the loss of jobs and I regret the inconvenience this will cause to the public, but I have hopes that the closure will be but a temporary one.

It seems clear that one of the major reasons for the loss incurred on the service in recent years is that the vessels being used were unsuitable to the trade which could be carried on the route. P & O could not see their way to reinvesting in appropriate replacement tonnage, but I believe that other operators may *well* be prepared, in the light of the demand for this service and its potential for development, to make that investment.

Since the threat to the P & O service some months ago my officials have been in touch with a wide range of alternative potential operators.

I would stress that while the Government has been doing every*thing possible to interest the com*panies in operating on the route final decisions will be taken on purely commercial grounds.

In my view it would not be right to spend taxpayers' money on subsidizing a service which has prospects of *viability and which* other operators are willing to test commercially.

Mr Denis Concannon, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Mansfield, Lab), said: It is inconceivable that today there is no ferry *link* between Belfast and Liverpool. We view this situation with alarm and despondency and are amazed at the Government's inflexibility and dogmatic adherence to the doctrine of privatization. It allows no room for *manoeuvre and proper policies*.

I expected better things from Mr Prior who should step in now P & O are out of the way to take over the operation on an agency basis in the interim until the new operators come along.

The amount of money involved in the operation would be peanuts compared to the benefits that would inevitably flow.

Mr Prior: *This* service *is* a commercial one which can be run at a profit. While that opportunity is there, it would be utterly wrong of the Government to intervene to subsidize such a service with taxpayers' money.

Until the P & O service is out of the way no one else will be prepared to come forward. Therefore, for me to step in now and run *this* service *temporarily with* a subsidy would be absolutely fatal to other people coming forward.

I want to keep this service going as I do not want any more unemployment than is necessary by a demanning exercise, but to keep on with the service would not save unemployment in the long run and would prevent more *jobs* coming from new services.

Later Mr Prior said that a number of ferry operators had shown an interest. Two in particular had carried out detailed surveys but he was not prepared to state who they were because, if he did, there was a good chance they might not come forward. But he could assure MPs that at least two were potential operators.

As soon as the present service was out of the way they would be free in their own minds to begin negotiations with the trade unions and with the two port operators *concerned*.

He added: I regard the maintenance of some link between Liverpool and Belfast as being not only important from the commercial point of view but also as a symbol.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said: Many of us think the workers in Liverpool, in sitting-in on the ships, are perfectly entitled to do so and should receive the support of everybody. (Labour cheers and Conservative protests)

Mr Prior: It is that remark which does a good deal of damage to the reputation of Liverpool. We simply will not get a new ferry service to operate while the old service is there or while people are sitting in on the *ships*.

New operators are not prepared to come forward while there is any *question of* the old *service* either being in operation or being subsidized for even a short period of time. They require a fresh start between Liverpool and Belfast and I think they are justified in the circumstances in doing *so*.

Government has been flexible

LORDS

There was now evidence that Britain was at last pulling its way *out of its deep economic difficulties*, Lady Young, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House of Lords, said in the resumed debate on the Queen's Speech.

Industrial output had stabilized and engineering and construction orders had increased. Short time working had fallen and overtime in manufacturing industry was *higher*.

All that meant the economic activity was picking up. Sensible pay bargaining offered the prospect of more new jobs and real jobs in the future.

The British people (she went on), *not the* British Government, have the skills and determination to win through when given the chance.

Her theme was that they owed it to the country which was struggling so hard to try to remedy years of failure of government and lack of success in industry, to see present policies through.

We must be flexible (she said) and we have been. We must listen and we do. We must be ready to adjust our plans and measures to meet new circumstances and unforeseen events, and this we have done.

But future generations would *accord* the *Government little* thanks if, for whatever reason, it shirked its task to reverse Britain's long economic decline for tem*porary popularity, for it was the* reversal of decline they were determined to achieve. It may not be easy; but the Government never said it would be.

It is a sobering thought that 20 years ago Britain's national income per head ranked second among Common Market countries. By 1979 it had fallen to seventh place.

Successive governments of both colours had too often tried to treat the symptoms and not the disease. The ability of government to do anything more than set the right framework for sustainable economic growth was, at the very least, unproven.

Britain had failed *to adapt* and adjust. When adjustment did come, as inevitably it did, it was all the more painful. What had been happening up and down the country, in private and public sectors of industry, was that concealed unemployment in the form of overmanning had come through in perceived unemployment.

I must say to the extent that blame lies anywhere (she said) it lies upon successive governments, management and unions which *implemented or pressed for* measures to preserve overmanning.

Because the Government did not believe that governments themselves could in the long run generate higher growth and full employment it had concentrated on creating *the right climate in* which individual firms could achieve those objectives.

There was *now evidence* that Britain was at last pulling its way out from its deep economic difficulties. A new mood of realism and responsibility had gripped the country and was beginning to show through in Britain's *economic* performance.

The average rise in earnings and settlements in the 1980-81 pay round was about half that of the *previous round*. The rate of inflation was roughly half that of the second quarter of last year. Increases in productivity and improvements in work practices were helping recover lost competitiveness. The pressure on profit margins was easing and industrial stoppages were probably at their lowest level since the 1940s.

Lady Birk, for the Opposition, *said* unemployment was now nudging three million and many economists would argue it was over that. The rise in youth unemployment to a level where half the school leavers were condemned to the dole queue was a scandal for which there was no excuse.

Instead of what Lady Young had said, industry had suffered *more than even during the depres*sion of the 1930s. Output was down by one sixth, investment was falling steadily, major companies were closing plant every week and the liquidation of companies was running at a record level.

It is against all commonsense (she said) to believe a policy which repeatedly closes factories and so diminishes production should enable us to become richer.

Except for a privileged minority, the standard of living was being cut by increases in taxation, reductions in social security benefits and cuts in real wages forced on workers by redundancy threats. Public services were under increasingly severe strain.

In *short* (she said) the Government's economic record since the election has been one of unparalleled failure.

Even the optimists *did* not expect Britain to recover its former level of production in the *next five years. Future prospects* depended on the skills of working people and industrial investment in advanced technologies. But what was the Government achieving in those areas.

The number of apprenticeships had fallen to less than half the level of the late 1960s and investment in manufacturing industry had fallen by nearly a quarter. *Financial institutions* were channelling huge volumes of funds overseas rather than into industry at home.

Therefore (she added) as long as current policies continue we see no hope for the future.

The Government claims benefits of their policies will soon show through. We have been living with that for quite a long time. It would have more credibility if we could see some coherent strategy based on convincing theories. The underlying monetarist theories are in tatters and practical application of these theories are reduced to a charade.

The sooner *the* Government abandoned its obsession with meaningless financial targets the sooner they could begin sensible discussion on alternative policies.

The clutch of critics of the Government's economic policies was now enormous and influential. It included, apart from the remaining dissidents in the Cabinet, leading Conservative politicians as well as droves of distinguished economists, the CBI, industrialists, small and large businessmen and professional people. (Labour cheers)

It is almost unnecessary (she *said*) *for* the Opposition to do more than join this mighty chorus. It is no longer a party political matter. This is affecting the whole country.

Lord Rochester (L) said the Government should be warned that it would be most imprudent at the moment to mount any general attack on the immunities trade unions had from being sued for *damages*.

Most strikes were unofficial, and the *shifts* in the balance of power in the trade unions could not be *changed overnight*.

Lord Constatine of Stanmore (C), in his maiden speech, said there was wide expression of concern at the burden placed on domestic consumers by the rising cost of gas and electricity. The Government *should give urgent consideration* to the financing of capital projects from sources other than revenue from sales.

Lord Roberthall (SDP) said international cooperation was needed to


Alport: Asset stripping criticized

deal with the present world recession. *If incomes policy was* not possible, there would have to be sanctions.

Lord Jacques (Lab) said a permanent flexible incomes policy was absolutely essential. Without it, Britain would experience rapid inflation and the *kind* of disaster in unemployment it was experiencing at the moment.

Lord Mottistone (C) said when incomes policies had been applied in the past they had only worked temporarily and were followed by an *upsurge in resentment*.

Lord Boothby (Ind) said gold must be made the basis of money and it should be international. A first small step would b efore Britain to join the European Monetary System. But the problem could only be solved at the top level by the American and British treasuries.

There needed to be an international monetary system based on *gold with flexible exchange rates* and the price of gold should be fixed by an international authority from time to time.

Lord Winstanley (L) said that with the present numbers of unemployed, and the tendency for unemployment to be concentrated at the beginning of the working life, it would be much better to extend the years of idleness at the end of the *working life by bringing down* the retirement age by one, two or three years.

The Earl ofDudley (C said it was to be hoped measures to help the unemployed at worst would not increase the overall level of infla*tion and at best might encourage* a reduction.

Lord Alport (C) said the Conservatives had always favoured administrative decentralisation in local government, leaving local folk to do their own thing. But the constant *theme of local government* legislation seemed to be "The man in Whitehall knows best".

Mr Heseltine seemed to be preparing the ground which would make it easy for some authoritarian left-wing government of the *future to destory the tradition of* local responsibility and representation.

The men and women who voted for the present Government did not vote for any particular financial policy, or for the sal eof retail *shops belonging to the gas cor*poration or for the sort of Slater-Walker asset stripping which the Government appeared to be under*taking*.

Voters expected a government to intervene when problems arose to manage, to consult and to seek consensus.

He found it remarkable that the phrase "One nation" should now be regarded in the highest quarters of the Tory Party as an indication of political disaffection, a codeword for the "wets", or a label of *contempt*.

The present Conservative administration would destroy itself if it insisted on continuing its present style of government *and its* present financial and economic policies. Government could only be successful if, by its policies, it united the people in common effort to fight and overcome internal and external dangers.

Tomorrow he would vote against the Opposition's amendment, but for the rest of the session he would pass his vote as a independent Unionist peer, as a latter day disciple of Benjamin Disraeli and as a lifelong Tory committed to the *principles of social reform* and national unity.

He only hoped the policies of the Prime Minister and the Government would enable him to do so with a good conscience in their support, and with the knowledge that they shared his objective and ideal of Britain as one nation.

The debate will continue tomorrow (Thursday.)

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture and Prime Minister. Debate on Opposition motion on encroachment on local government autonomy. Lords (3): Conclusion of debate on Queen's Speech. Main *topic—economic and industrial* affairs.

Bill gives more rights to detained mental patients

By Lucy Hodges

The long-awaited Bill reforming the mental health law, published yesterday impressed critics of the Government with the rights it proposes to give to some detained patients but appalled them by leaving powers with the professionals in certain areas.

The Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, which was published with an explanatory White Paper, does away with the paternalism and professional discretion written into the 1959 law and gives patients legal safeguards against wrongful admission and treatment.

It gives patients many more opportunities apply to a mental health review tribunal for release and introduces automatic tribunal hearing for those whose cases have not been reviewed for three years. Tribunal hearing will increase from 904 last year to about 4,500 a year.

The Bill says that any patient whose detention is renewed by a tribunal will have to be able to benefit from further treatment. Mr Larry Gostin, legal director of MIND, the mental health charity, said that would mean that patients would no longer languish in institutions without any prospect of treatment.

"This takes away the responsibility of psychiatrists to be jailers", he said. "Mental hospitals are there for treatment and not confinement."

The Bill proposes a watchdog body, a quango called the Mental Health Act Commisson, which will protect the interests of detained patients, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday. The new body would be composed of lawyers, doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers and laymen serving part time.

They will visit each of the 300 local hospitals and mental nursing homes in England and Wales with detained patients once or twice a year. They will make one visit a month to the four special hospitals for mentally abnormal offenders.

"In their visits the commission members will make themselves available to detained patients who wish to see them, will ensure that staff are helping patients to understand their legal position and their rights", the White Paper says.

"They will look at patients' records of admission and renewal of detention and at records relating to treatment. They will also ensure that detained patients are satisfied with the handling of any complaints they make."

The decision on when treatment can be imposed on patients, the most controversial part of the commission's work, is to be resolved by the appointment of psychiatrists for that purpose.

The commission will draw up a code of practice which will advise which treatment should not be given without the patient's consent, but individual cases will be decided by the specially appointed psychiatrists.

The Bill proposes that treatments which give rise to special concern, such as brain surgery, should be administered only with the patient's consent and the agreement of an independent doctor.

Drugs, electro-convulsive therapy and surgery which is not included in the first category, can be given without the patient's consent if an independent doctor agrees. The Bill then mentions a third category of treatment "including general medical and nursing care", which can be given without the patients consent.

MIND was scathingly critical of that point. Mr Gostin said that while Government had grasped the nettle of reform on consent to treatment it had rendered it menaingless by leaving exclusive review to the professionals. Doctors should not be the only people to decid such questions.

"I feel quite confident that if this proposal goes through it will become increasingly more unpopular and the public will become less and less confident in it as a safeguard", Mr Gostin said.

He was convinced that the only reason the commission had been proposed was to suit the desires of the Royal College of Psychiatrists on consent to treatment.

MIND was also critical of the Government's failure so accommodate the European Court of Human Rights judgment in the Bill. The omission was expected and it is understood that it will be included in the legislation as it goes through Parliament.



Adam and Eve and (right) two seventeenth-century royal gardeners, John Tradescant, father and son, are depicted in a new window at the Tradescant Centre, St Mary-at-Lambeth, London. The church, alongside Lambeth Palace, after being declared redundant by the ecclesiastical authorities was saved from demolition and restored as a museum of gardening history. The window, commissioned by the Glaziers' and Painters' of Glass Company for the Tradescant Trust, was designed and made by Lawrence Lee, ARCA.

Press ban too wide, judge says

By Frances Gibb

A ban imposed by West Sussex magistrates under the new contempt of Court Act on the reporting of committal proceedings in an alleged gun-running case, was said by a High Court judge yesterday to be too wide.

Mr Justice Forbes said that the magistrates at Horsham had made the order without considering whether it could be defined more narrowly. His view and that of Mr Justice Glidewell was that although the magistrates had the power to make the order under Section 4 (ii) of the Act, they never really applied their minds to the question whether the order they made should be restricted.

The judge was commenting during the second day of a hearing that is the first challenge to the use by courts of powers under the Act. The two judges had heard that the ban, imposed on October 16, prevented the press from reporting even the names, addresses and charges faced by defendants in the trial.

Mr Desmond Browne, counsel for the *West Sussex County Times*, which is challenging the ban, said its imposition was an attempt to get round a defendant's right to have reporting restrictions lifted.

That right had been unchallengeable until this year, when the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act was passed, giving magistrates discretion over the lifting of reporting restrictions if any of the accused objected.

But that Act, brought in after the committal proceedings in the trial of Mr Jeremy Thorpe, where restrictions were lifted despite objections from some of the accused, had not come into force in time to help the defendants in the Horsham case, Mr Browne said. They had therefore invoked the newly passed Contempt of Court Act.

It was an abuse of the Act to use it to try to get round the Criminal Justice Act, which gave a defendant the right to lift reporting restrictions, he said.

"It can never have been intended by Parliament to use the Contempt of Court Act, passed on July 27, to remedy a criticism of the 1967 Criminal Justice Act which had already been remedied by Parliament only five days before by the passing of the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act."

The ban is being contested by Mr Ian Farquharson, a journalist with the *West Sussex County Times*, the National Union of Journalists, backed by the National Council for Civil Liberties, and the newspaper, backed by the Newspaper Society.

Warning of battle ahead for higher farm prices

By John Young

Agriculture was likely to remain economically weak in Britain and most other EEC countries in 1982-83, Mr David Evans, chief economic and policy adviser to the National Farmers' Union (NFU), said yesterday.

But while there was a strong case for substantially increased price support levels, there would also be strong pressure to hold down price increases so as to contain the cost to the common agricultural policy.

"I cannot see that there will be any change in the strong conviction among certain members of the Council of Ministers that Community expenditure on agriculture must be brought down", he told members of the Farmers' Club in London.

Britain would have to fight with great determination to avoid arrangements which discriminated against it. "There is a great likelihood that we will be asked to make some revaluation of the green pound. With incomes at such a depressed level this would be totally unacceptable".

The NFU was also particularly concerned about the position in intensive livestock and horticulture, where a combination of unfair aids in other countries, the strength of sterling, and the unevenness of Britain's marketing efforts made it particularly vulnerable.

The Commission's guidelines for the common agriculture policy showed a continuing preoccupation with the belief that the small man must be protected at all costs. That kind of approach was economically wrong

Scots get more out of a car

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

The cost of motoring is highest in the South-east and lowest in the Midlands but in terms of miles travelled the thriftiest driver is a Scotsman, according to a survey published today in *Drive*, the Automobile Association magazine.

It shows that the cost of running a car in Scotland for the year to the end of last June was 8.8p a mile, compared with 10.3p in the South-east.

Because Scottish motorists covered a high mileage they got most from such fixed costs as insurance and road tax. Scottish drivers covered 9,822 miles a year, nearly 1,000 more than the national average.

But the Scots' biggest economies were in service and repair bills, which were £40 lower than the average figure. One explanation for that is that Scots have the highest proportion of new cars in Britain.

Drive says that the high cost of motoring in the South-east, where the average car cost £895 a year to run, against the national figure of £872, is a reflection of heavy traffic, shorter journeys and bigger cars.

Midlands drivers paid least in total, £832, but more a mile than the Scots because they travelled less. The survey shows that motorists in the North were driving 400 miles a year less than in previous years, probably because of the recession.

Although Scotland has the highest proportion of people in the top, AB, income bracket, only 30 per cent of Scottish households have more than one car, compared with 43 per cent in the South-east.

IRAN EMBASSY GROUP FREED

Thirteen Iranians who took part in the occupation of their country's embassy in Kensington, west London, last September were given conditional discharges for two years at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday.

The demonstrators, who were not identified in court for fear of reprisals to their families in Iran, were each ordered to pay £130 compensation to the Iranian Government. They all admitted trespassing at the embassy.

The court heard that the demonstrators, who opposed the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini, sprayed slogans on the embassy walls and destroyed documents, causing damage estimated at more than £7,000.

Nuclear leak blamed on fuel rod error

By Nicholas Timmins

A mistake by staff at the Oldbury-on-Severn nuclear power station, near Bristol, was partly responsible for a radiation leak at the nuclear reprocessing plant at Windscale, Cumbria last month, the Central Electricity Generating Board said yesterday.

The leak led to the plant, now renamed Sellafield, being closed for 24 hours, and contaminated milk on farms near by.

The board said that nuclear fuel rods which had just been removed from the reactor were wrongly sent to Windscale. They should have been stored for at least 90 days before dispatch, to allow short-lived radioactivity to die away.

As a result the fuel was more radioactive than it should have been when it was reprocessed, resulting in the release of more than seven curies of radioactive iodine.

British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, which runs the Sellafield plant, yesterday refused to say whether it normally checks fuel to make sure it is not too radioactive for treatment before putting it into the reprocessing line.

"That is not something that at this stage we want to talk about until we have reported on the incident to the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate", a spokesman said.

The generating board said the error occurred because newly discharged fuel was stored in a skip in a cooling pond alongside the area where fuel ready for reprocessing has its outer skin stripped off before dispatch to British Nuclear Fuels. Seven newly discharged fuel elements were taken in error from the wrong skip and mixed with a consignment of 200 fuel rods that were ready for dispatch.

Six of those fuel rods went into the reprocessing line at Sellafield on October 4, 27 days after they had come out of the reactor, resulting in the release of radioactivity.

Steps have now been taken to segregate the newly discharged fuel more clearly from that being stripped ready for dispatch, the board said, to ensure that the error was not repeated. The incident has also been drawn to the attention of other nuclear power station managers, although there was no evidence that other stations had made similar mistakes.

Many in hostels still at risk despite fire rules

By A Staff Reporter

A new obligation on local authorities to enforce fire regulations in hostels for the homeless was welcomed yesterday as "a long overdue safeguard" by Char, the Campaign for Single Homeless People, even though it will cover only about a quarter of hostel places. "This measure is a step forward," Mr Nicholas Beacock, dirctor of Char, said yesterday, "but it is not going to guarantee that there will not be further tragedies. Many people living in hostels will still be at risk."

The new obligation, which comes into force on December 3, follows at least 35 deaths in hostel fires in the past four years, including the 10 women victims of the fire at a hostel in Kilburn, London, last year.

The order, however, affects only the largest hostels, those with three or more storeys with a floor area of more than 500 square metres. According to Char, only 17 of the 35 who died were in hostels of a size to be covered by the new order.

The rest, including those who died at Kilburn in the worst hostel fire in recent years, were in hostels where local authorities will still not have an obligation to enforce fire precautions.

"Although the measure is welcome," Mr Beacock said, "it will still be discretionary for local authorities to enforce fire precautions in the smaller hostels. Given the economic climate, many local authorities are not going to use their discretionary powers to search out the smaller hostels and provide the funds to enforce fire regulations. Many people will still be at risk."

Where a local authority requires fire precautions to be installed, a mandatory grant of three-quarters of the cost, up to £6,750, is available. The local authority also has discretion to provide the full cost.

Where a hostel applies voluntarily for the grant, however, the local authority need provide only up to three-quarters of the cost. Many hostels cannot afford to meet the rest of the bill, and so do not apply.

The order enforcing the new obligations is to be laid before Parliament today.

Baby died 'after three months of cruelty'

From Our Correspondent, Norwich

A baby died after three months of cruelty at the hands of his mother and her lover although he was on the social services register of children at risk, Norwich Crown Court was told yesterday.

Jason Caesar, aged 19 months, was seen more than 20 times in the month leading up to his death by doctors, social and welfare workers, and even had two spells in hospital.

A catalogue of injuries were noted, including fractures of both arms, extensive bruising of the head and body and a burn mark on his groin.

Although four case conferences were held, the last only three days before his death, social and welfare workers decided not to take the boy into custody.

Mr anthony Wilcken, for the prosecution, said: "The general feeling at the last case conference was that there was insufficient evidence for moving the child from his home but arrangements had been made to do so if the necessity arose".

The boy's mother, Mrs Christina Caesar, divorced, aged 25, and Andrew Clark, her lover, aged 24, of Darwin Drive, Cambridge, both pleaded not guilty to manslaughter.

They also denied wilfully ill-treating the child over three months between August and November last year, causing him unnecessary suffering.

The court was told that the boy died from hypothermia as he lay in his cot in his unheated bedroom on a freezing November night last year.

A post-mortem examination showed that in addition to extensive bruising the child suffered internal injuries, including a tear in the stomach which caused bleeding. Mr Wilcken said that the blow needed to produce that injury would cause shock in an infant, which in turn would lead to a loss of body heat.

Mr Wilcken added that the couple had given "inconsistent and conflicting explanations as to how the injuries had been caused".

He said: "They claim some happened after the baby was knocked down by an alsatian dog and on another occasion had fractured his elbow when he flung himself to the floor in a temper tantrum".

The trial continues today.

IN BRIEF

Elephant to work on Welsh farm

A two-year-old elephant was flown from Sri Lanka to Heathrow airport, London, yesterday on its way to a new life on a Welsh farm run by a religious group called the Community of the Many Names of God.

Valli Uma, or Earth Mother in Hindu, which was a gift from the Sri Lanka Government, is four feet tall. It is planned that the elephant, which will be used in religious parades, will eventually earn its keep by doing jobs on the 100-acre farm at Llanpumpsaint, north of Carmarthen.

Accidental new apple

Mr John Clarke, a retired lecturer, aged 82, of Dolforgan, Kerry, Powys, believes that a tree grown from a seed in an apple core thrown by chance into his garden 15 years ago, may produce a new variety of eating apples. The Royal Horticultural Society has asked him to submit nine of the fruit to a tasting panel in London.

Fan is fined £750

Peter Haigh, aged 22, of Attenborough Close, Newtown, Birmingham, was fined £750 at Birmingham yesterday for assaulting a woman police superintendent at a match between Aston Villa and Leicester last season. The officer had her nose broken when she was hit by a milk bottle.

Weaver's bequest

Miss Gladys Dickinson and Miss Nora Biddulph, who worked together for more than 40 years running the Quantock Weavers, at Plainsfield near Taunton, have bequeathed £5,000 to Somerset Education Authority for the use of students of spinning, weaving and natural dyes.

Man dead in cell

Malcolm James Edyvean, aged 33, who was on remand in Winchester prison accused of murdering a security guard near Plymouth on September 9 and was due to appear before Winchester magistrates today, was found hanged in a cell yesterday.

Cockerel fine

Mrs Dora Grifiths, aged 57, of Mochdre, Colwyn Bay, was fined £5 at Colwyn Bay yesterday for keeping a noisy cockerel in her council house. The prosecution was brought by Colwyn Borough Council. Mrs Griffiths, who also keeps a hen, a wounded seagull and a mongrel dog, denied that the cockerel was noisy.

Burning his books

A Manchester man of 84 today won £104,000 on the pools a day after accidentally burning his pension and rent book, which he had put in the oven for safekeeping and forgot to take out when he cooked a meal.

Group win £877,256

A group of customers at the Tiger Inn, at Haxby, near York, yesterday received a cheque for a £877,256 pools win, said to be the second largest ever.

Ordinarily resident for student grant

Regina v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex parte Shah and Another
Regina v Brent London Borough Council, ex parte Akbarali
Regina v Shropshire County Council, Ex parte Abdullah
Regina v Inner London Education Authority, Ex parte Ablack
Regina v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex parte Shabpar

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Templeman

[Judgment delivered November 10]

An overseas student who came to the United Kingdom on a student's visa renewable every year for the purpose of study in this country, and who had no right to remain after he had ceased to be a student, was not "ordinarily resident" in the United Kingdom for the purpose of regulation 13 of the Local Education Authority Award Regulations 1979 (*SI 889*), and accordingly was not entitled to a local authority education award under *section 1 of the Education* Act 1962.

The Court of Appeal, giving reserved *judgments* in six cases that were heard together, dismissed appeals from the Divisional Court who held (*The Times*, July 21, 1980; [1981] 2 WLR 86) that Mr Nilish Shah was and Mr Jitendra Shah (not related) was not eligible for student grants from Barnet London Borough Council; refused applications by Mr Hamid Akbarali and Mr Abu Abdullah for judicial review of decisions by Brent London Borough Council and Shropshire County Council, respectively, declining to award grants to the applicants; granted a similar application by Miss Joanne Ablack in respect of the Inner London Education Authority; and dismissed an appeal by Mr Madjid Shabpar from a decision of the *Divisional Court on July 20, 1981*, that Brent London Borough Council had rightly refused a grant to the applicant.

Section 1 of the 1962 Act provides: "(1) It shall be the duty of every local education authority, subject to and in accordance with regulations made under this Act, *to bestow awards on persons who* — (a) are ordinarily resident in the area of the authority, and (b) *possess the requisite educational* qualifications, in respect of their attendance at courses to which this section applies ..."

Regulation 13 of the 1979 Regulations provides: "An authority shall not be under a duty to bestow an award in respect of a person's attendance at a course — (a) upon a person who has not been ordinarily resident throughout the three years preceding the first year of the course in question, in the United Kingdom ..."

Mr Anthony Lester, Q.C, for Mr Nilish Shah and Mr Jitendra Shah; Mr Michael Beloff, QC, for Mr Akbarali, Mr Abudullah, and Miss Ablack; Mr K. S. Nathan for Mr Shabpar; Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, and Mr Robin Barratt for Barnet London Borough Council and the Inner London Education Authority; Miss Elizabeth *Appleby*, QC, and Mr Stephen Aitchison for Shropshire County Council; Mr Robin Barratt for *Brent London* Borough Council.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that students who had their homes in this country and had been here all their lives were of course entitled to awards; the difficulty arose with students born overseas and coming from overseas.

Many had been here for some time; they had come as boys or girls and been to school here and their parents had paid the school fees, but they wanted a grant towards their expenses at a university or polytechnic.

In a sense they sought a special privilege over home students, since their parents would not have paid income tax in this country, out of which the grants had to come. Yet they claimed a grant as of right. They were only entitled to such a grant if they had been "ordinarily *resident*" in this country throughout the three years before the course started.

Six cases, all presenting different features, had been brought before the court to test the position. Mr Nilish Shah was a citizen of Kenya with a Kenyan passport. He came to this country at the age of 17 in August 1976 with his parents. They had an entry settlement issued in Nairobi marked "for settlement". Nilish had a certificate marked "accompanying parents-settlement". On the faith of that, his passport was endorsed "indefinite leave to enter".

In fact the parents returned to Kenya five weeks *later*, but Nilish stayed with relatives and went daily to school from September 1976 to June 1979. He went back to Kenya each year for his summer holiday with his parents. In October *1979 he started a* course at Manchester University. The question was whether he was "ordinarily resident" here from October 1976 to October 1979.

Mr Jitendra Shah — no relation *of Nilish* — was a typical case of a boy who came on a student's visa. He was a citizen of the United *Kingdom* and Colonies and held a British passport issued by a High Court in Nairobi. His parents lived in Kenya. He arrived in August 1976 and had to satisfy the authorities that he could meet the course and his own maintenance.

On that basis he was granted leave to enter for 12 months, which was continued on the same basis in later years. He stayed with his brother, who had a house here and maintained him, went to a technical college from September 1976 to July 1979, and did not at any time go back to Kenya. In October 1979 he began reading for a degree at Newcastle University.

Mr Akbarali was born in Pakistan but was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies. He came at the age of 18 on a student's visa which had been renewed annually, lived in a rented flat in Chelsea and went to various schools from January 1975 to September 1978. He started at Chelsea College in October 1978. During his relevant three-year period he returned to Pakistan twice on holiday.

Mr Abdullah, born in Bangladesh and with Bangladeshi citizenship, came on a student's visa in the same way, went to a college in Shrewsbury, and began a course at a polytechnic in London in September 1979. In July 1977 he went back to Bangladesh for a six-week holiday.

Miss Ablack was very different from all the others. She was born in this country in 1959, was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies by birth and had the right of abode here. Her father, who was born in Trinidad, was then working for the BBC. *Her* first three years were spent here, but then her father joined the Trinidad government service.

She was with her parents in various countries until she was 13. Her father was appointed to a post in the Trinidad High Commission in London. She was *with her parents here for* six years. In 1978 the parents returned to Trinidad but she *remained in England, and went to* Leeds University in October 1978.

The Inner London Education Authority refused her grant application on the ground that since her father had the privileges and immunization accorded to a diplomat, she was not "ordinarily resident" while living with her parents until July 1978.

Mr Shabpar was a citizen of Iran who came here in 1971 at the age of 21 on a student's visa and had lived here ever since. In February 1975 he married a Swiss girl who was working in a hospital under a work permit.

The wife had been here for some time, and consequently they were both entitled in due course to indefinite leave to remain. However Mr Shabpar renewed his student visa in April 1977, and did not apply for indefinite stay until the following year. In May 1978 the Home Office told him he was free to remain permanently.

He started at Brunel University in October 1980; his three-year period was therefore October 1977 to October 1980. If he had applied earlier, the conditions of his stay would have been lifted before October 1977.

Three *tests* of ordinary residence had been adumbrated in the cases. First, was England the "real home"; or was the real home overseas: *Stransky v Stransky* ([1954] P 428).

Second, was the purpose in being here a specific or limited purpose such as education, or was it the general purpose of living here: *R v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex parte Shah* (*The Times*, July 21, 1980; [1981] 2 WLR 86).

Third, was the intention at the relevant time to live and remain here permanently or only for a time: *Cicutti v Suffolk County Council* (*The Times* July 30, 1980; [1981] 1 WLR 558).

Three tests had been submitted by counsel: Was his habitual residence here? (Mr Lester); the residence must be as of right and not by sufferance and not for a limited purpose only, and the applicant must have *severed all* connexion with his place of origin (Mr Scrivener); the applicant must be living here and entitled to live here permanently as part of the general community (Miss Appleby). Mr Lester's test would let all six applicants in; the others would shut them all out.

The case called for a new exercise in statutory interpretation. Traditionally, the court would ask itself what was the natural and ordinary meaning of the two words "ordinarily resident" in the context of the statute at the time when it became law. By that approach, Mr Lester's test would be the right one to apply.

But it had to be remembered that in March 1962, when the Education Act was passed, Parliament *had no idea of what was to* come in the next 20 years. There was then no restriction at all on young people coming from the Commonwealth to study.

Since 1971 everything had changed. Under the Immigration Act 1971, and the rules made thereunder, students could no longer come in freely without conditions. If Parliament had envisaged such a state of affairs in 1962, would it have inserted a definition of "ordinarily resident" to exclude such students? Presumably not, because in the Education Act 1980, when *all the* difficulties *were apparent*, the same two words were used without elucidation.

The court should abandon its traditional method of interpretation. *The rebuffs in Magor v Newport Corporation* ([1952] AC 189) no longer hurt. The court *must fill in the gaps* which Parliament had left.

On that approach, whenever a *boy came from overseas* on a student's visa which was renewed every year, he was not to be regarded as ordinarily resident here, no matter whether he went home for holidays or not, and no matter whether his parents were dead and he had no home to go to overseas. In coming to that conclusion, his Lordship was much influenced by the observations of Lord Justice Ormrod in his judgment in the Divisional Court in the *Shah* case. *Cicutti v Suffolk County Council* was wrongly decided.

It followed that Mr Nilish Shah and Miss Ablack were ordinarily resident here over the relevant period, and their cases should be remitted for reconsideration. The others were not ordinarily resident.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, *concurring*, said that Mr Shabpar's case raised a further point. Section 1(4) of the 1962 Act gave *the authority a discretion to make* an award even though the applicant did not qualify as *of right* under section 1(1). In the letter to Mr Shabpar telling him that his application was refused, no mention was made of the discretionary power.

Mr Nathan submitted that the authority should have considered whether or not to exercise the discretion. However, there was nothing in the Act imposing on the authority a duty to consider an application from the point of view of the discretionary power.

Lord Justice Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Jaques & Co for Mr Nilish Shah and Mr Jitendra Shah; Bindman & Partners for Mr Akbarali, Mr Abdullah and Miss Ablack; Nicholls, Christie & Crocker, Uxbridge, for Mr Shabpar; E. M. Bennet for Barnet; S. R. Forster for Brent; R. C. Sawtell for Shropshire; R. A. Langham for the Inner London Education Authority.

Delay no ground for striking out probate action

In re Flynn deceased: Flynn v Flynn and others

Before Mr Justice Slade

[Judgment delivered November 4]

His Lordship refused to strike out an action brought by Miss Ripple Flynn asking the court to pronounce against a codicil to the will of Terence Victor Moore Flynn, deceased, of which probate had been granted on June 3, 1974 to the first and second defendants, Kathleen Axen Flynn and Michael Geoffrey Baron, the deceased's executors, and to pronounce in favour of the deceased's will dated December 14, 1972, the claim to strike out being made on the ground that the action had been instituted at too late a date and disclosed no reasonable cause of action. The *application* to strike out was made by the third defendant, Terence Michael Dixon, a beneficiary under the codicil.

Mr James Sunnucks for Mr Dixon; Mr Ian Karsten for Miss *Ripple* Flynn.

MR JUSTICE SLADE said that by a will dated December 14, 1972, the testator, Terence Victor Moore Flynn, bequeathed his residuary estate to the plaintiff, Miss Ripple Flynn, and appointed Kathleen Axen Flynn and Michael Geoffrey Baron, the first and second *defendants, as his executors*.

By a purported codicil, dated January 9, 1974, the deceased bequeathed his residuary estate to the plaintiff and Terence Michael *Dixon*, the third defendant, in equal shares.

The deceased died next day, January 10. Probate was granted to the first and second defendants on June 3, 1974.

On June 2, 1980, six years less one day from the grant of probate, the plaintiff issued a writ and statement of claim asking the court to pronounce against the codicil and, in solemn form, for the will, and, if necessary, for the grant of probate to be revoked. The present summons by Mr Dixon asked that the action be dismissed under Order 18, rule 19, of the Rules of the Supreme Court, substantially on two grounds: delay in instituting proceedings and that no reasonable cause of action was disclosed.

By the statement of claim, as amended, the plaintiff put Mr Dixon to proof that the codicil was duly executed; that the deceased knew and approved of its contents, and she alleged that its execution was obtained by undue influence.

In particular it was alleged, inter alia, that the deceased was admitted into hospital in the early morning of January 9, suffering from a heart attack, and that *Mr* Dixon, knowing that the deceased was gravely ill, procured the deceased to *execute the codicil. It* was further alleged that on January 2, 1974, Mr Dixon, for his own purposes, had withdrawn from an account in the joint names of the deceased and *himself the sum of £1,125.*

The following matters were common ground: that one of the *attesting witnesses was still alive*, but that the other had died before the grant of probate; that both the plaintiff and Mr Dixon were legally aided; that there had been unsuccessful attempts at compromise *and that the principal asset*, a property known as 205 Richmond Road, Twickenham, had been valued at £17,772, gross, *and* at nil net, the reason being because the deceased's brother had instituted proceedings claiming that a declaration of trust in respect of the property had been executed by the deceased in his favour. The brother's claim was, however, ultimately abandoned on January 8, 1980, and it was then, for the first time, that it was known that the estate would be *solvent*. The present value of the estate was about £35,000.

Turning to the submissions made on Mr Dixon's behalf, it should be observed that although six years less one day had elapsed since the grant of probate, there was no statutory provision limiting the period within which a probate action must be begun. Although the *Rules* of the Supreme Court contained a number of provisions, without prejudice to *the court's inherent* jurisdiction, to dismiss for want of prosecution in specified circumstances, they *contained* no provision explicitly empowering the court to strike out an action on the ground that it *had been* instituted too late.

If therefore Mr Dixon was to *succeed he must satisfy* the court that the relief sought should be granted either under Order 18, *rule* 19 (1) (*d*), on the ground that the commencement of the action at such a late date was itself an abuse of process within that rule, or under the court's inherent jurisdiction.

No authority had been cited answering the question whether the court had power to dismiss an action seeking to challenge the validity of a purported testamentary instrument solely on the ground that the action had been instituted too late. To that extent Mr Sunnucks accepted that the proposition which he advanced was a novel one, involving an important point of principle.

Mr Sunnucks submitted, first, *that a claim* to revoke a grant of probate was essentially a claim to upset a court order which should *in principle, by analogy* be governed by limits similar to those affecting appeals from such orders. The present action had been instituted far *too late* when the effect of the order in question, the grant of probate, was to operate in rem, and not in personam as between the parties.

Second, the general policy of the law was to encourage a reasonably speedy administration of deceased's estates, as illustrated by "the executor's year", and the requirement under section 2 of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 that an application thereunder should not, *except* in exceptional cases, be made after six months from the grant of representation to the deceased's estate.

Third, Mr Sunnucks pointed out that the potential defendants to a probate action which had not yet been instituted lacked the remedies available to defendants in an existing action. It was unthinkable that executors and beneficiaries should be exposed to the threat of such *proceedings for* an indefinite period.

In answer, Mr Karsten submitted that there were *good* reasons of principle why statute imposed no time limit and why the court *should never strike out* an action on the mere ground of delay in instituting it. After an action of this *nature had been* started, the court had a duty to investigate the propriety or *otherwise of the order under* which the relevant grant was obtained, no matter how extreme the delay.

The court was a court of conscience concerned with the *sanctity of probate and must allow* the validity of the grant to be investigated at whatever date the challenge was made unless there were other grounds, apart from delay, on which it was obvious that the action must fail.

His Lordship had been referred to the recent case of *In the Estate of Hassan decd* (*Law Society's Gazette*, July 22, 1981) in which Mr Justice Falconer dismissed a subsisting probate claim for want of prosecution, and to a number of other cases such as *Krakauer v Katz* ([1954] 1 WLR 278) and *Birkett v James* ([1978] AC 297), where the nature of the jurisdiction to dismiss subsisting actions and the manner in which it should be exercised were discussed.

If the power to strike out for mere delay in instituting the action existed, then the speeches in *Birkett v James*, particularly that of Lord Diplock at p 318, afforded some guidance as to how the *discretion should be exercised*, but his Lordship could not derive much assistance from that *line of cases in considering* whether the relevant power existed at all.

The authority most nearly in point was *In re Coghlan decd* ([1948] 2 All ER 68) where the Court of Appeal allowed an appeal from an order of Mr Justice Willmer dismissing as frivolous and vexatious a very stale claim to revoke letters of administration and after 54 years to establish a will the existence of which had been known since 1912.

It appeared, however, that for the purpose of the appeal the defendants had not submitted that the delay as such was a bar to the claim in the Probate Court, even though it might amount to such laches as would in a court of equity bar any proceedings to follow and recover the property. The decision therefore constituted no binding authority in the present case. Certain observations in that case as to the effect of laches appeared to be obiter.

After referring to *Brotham v Burchell* ((1826) 3 Add 243) and to *Merryweather v Turner* ((1844) 3 Curteis 802) his Lordship concluded that the authorities tended to support the view that the court would never strike out an action of that nature on the mere ground of delay in instituting it, unless *satisfied* that the claim was otherwise frivolous vexatious or an abuse of process. It was not *necessary finally to decide* the point since his Lordship was satisfied that such a power should *not be exercised in the present* case.

It could not fairly be said that the plaintiff's delay in bringing proceedings was inexcusable, since, until January 1980, it appeared possible or probable that the estate would be insolvent. There was no evidence that the delay gave rise to any substantial risk that a fair trial would not be possible or that any serious prejudice had been caused to Mr Dixon or the executors.

Mr Sunnucks submitted that the deceased even though he might *have been gravely ill* at the time the codicil was executed, had previously instructed solicitors to prepare it, and its due execution sufficed to show knowledge and approval on his part of its contents.

The authorities seemed to show that though the deceased might be in a state approaching insensibility, and might not remember his previous instructions precisely at the moment of execution, it was sufficient provided that it was shown that he was capable of understanding and *did* understand that he was executing the will for which he had given instructions.

His Lordship thought it arguable that the facts alleged, if proved, would excite the suspicion of the courts as to the rightness of the transaction and would suffice to support a plea of undue influence, unless Mr *Dixon* succeeded in rebutting such suspicions.

There was at least sufficient substance in the various arguments to cause the court to refrain from exercising the striking out jurisdiction, which should only be exercised in a clear case. All the allegations of fact, as to how the codicil came to be prepared and executed, would have to be investigated.

In the final result, despite Mr Sunnuck's persuasive arguments on *Mr Dixon's behalf, he failed to* satisfy the court that the action would be struck out on either of the *two grounds*.

Solicitors: Waterhouse & Co for Cozens-Hardy & Jewson, Norwich; Maxwell, Batley & Co for Forman, Welch & Co, Twickenham.

Whether preventing crime is an obstruction

Moore v Green

Before *Lord Justice Donaldson* and Mr Justice Skinner

[Judgment delivered November 4]

The Divisional Court, allowing a prosecutor's appeal concerning a charge of obstructing police officers in the execution of their duty contrary to section 51(3) of the Police Act 1964, criticized the decision of *Bastable v Little* ([1907] 1 KB 59), and, while accepting its binding nature until overruled by a higher court, expressed the view that it should be strictly confined to its own facts.

That case concerned an alleged obstruction consisting of warnings *to motorists to reduce speed* to avoid a police speed trap. The court held that there had been no obstruction as there was no evidence that the motorists were exceeding the speed limit at the time the warnings were received.

The present appeal, which was brought by Police Sergeant Moore of the Gwent Constabulary, was by case stated from Judge Hopkin Morgan, QC, sitting with justices at *Newport Crown Court*. The crown court, on a submission of no case to answer, had allowed Mr Nigel Anthony Green's appeal *against conviction by justices at* Cwmbran Magistrates Court on a charge of wilfully obstructing Sergeant Moore and other officers in the execution of their duty.

The substance of the case against the defendant, a probationer constable with the Gwent Constabulary, was that while on foot patrol at 10.30 one *evening*, he warned the licensee of the Castle Hotel, Chepstow, that a group of police *officers* were in the area intending to investigate after hours drinking at the hotel bar that night. One of the group, in plain clothes, was keeping the bar under observation while the rest remained in the area waiting for closing time. The licensing laws that evening were strictly adhered to and the investigation came to nought.

Mr Martin Thomas, QC and Mr Gerard Elias for the prosecutor; *Mr Tom Crowther, QC* for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON, reading the reserved judgment of the court, said that the *crown court, allowing the defendant's* appeal, considered itself unable to distinguish *Bastable v Little*, which had not been *criticized* so far as counsel had been able to establish in any later case. The court *accordingly* took the view that it was essential for the prosecution to prove that at the time of the alleged obstruction, the person helped by the obstruction was committing or had committed an offence. On the facts alleged no offence had been committed at the time of the alleged obstruction.

The crown court had further found that the officers were not acting in the execution of their duty until and unless they had reason to enter the bar to investigate a suspected breach of the licensing laws.

If *Bastable v Little* had never yet been criticized, that was capable of being remedied. It was a very curious decision based upon a highly eccentric view of the facts. The decision seemed to have proceeded upon the basis that prior to the warning the motorists concerned had not exceeded the speed limit and that the warning was intended to discourage them from doing so. If that were so, their Lordships *would agree that no offence* had been committed, since the defendant would have been assisting the police in their duty to prevent crime.

But a more realistic view of the facts was that the warning was based on the expectation that the motorists were likely to exceed the speed limit over the measured distance, and that the warning was intended to discourage them from so doing until after they had passed out of the area of the police trap.

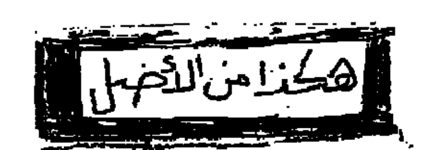
The court could not see any *distinction* between a warning given in order that the commission of an offence might be suspended while there was danger of detection, which was an offence: see *Betts v Stevens* ([1910] 1 KB 1); and a warning given in order that the commission of an offence might be postponed until after the danger of detection had passed.

Their Lordships were of course bound by the decision, and it had to be left to *others* to consider overruling it. But it was an authority which should be strictly confined *to the facts as the court* found them.

The court had to ask itself the three *questions propounded in Rice v Connolly* ([1966] 2 QB 414, 419), namely whether there was an obstruction of a constable; whether the constable was acting in the execution of his duty; and whether the obstruction was intended to obstruct the constable. On the facts those three matters were made out. The appeal would be allowed and the case remitted to the crown court for the hearing to be continued.

Their Lordships certified the following question as a point of law of general public importance: whether an act which prevents the commission of an offence which a police officer suspects may be committed can be an act of obstruction of a police constable in the execution of his duty when that duty is to keep observation with a view to detecting and obtaining evidence if that future offence is committed.

Solicitors: DPP; Derek James and Vaux, Newport, Gwent.



Peace in the Middle East: Begin digs in to fight the Saudi proposals

West Bank gets plenty of stick but little carrot

From Christopher Walker, Bethlehem, Nov 11

The full effect of the tough new "carrot and stick" policy being pursued by the Israeli security forces was being felt in many part of the occupied West Bank today as Israeli and Egyptian ministers met in Cairo in a fresh attempt to bridge differences over Palestinian autonomy.

[Egyptian negotiators in the Palestinian autonomy talks called on Israel to change its policies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Disagreement prevailed at the meeting although both sides said the talks were helpful.—Reuter.]

The new policy was outlined earlier this week by its chief architect, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister and former general. The idea was to improve the quality of life for the peaceful population while cracking down much harder against West Bankers who supported the Palestine Liberation Organization.

This has led over the past week to the arrest of the leaders of unions representing lawyers, doctors' and engineers' unions in the West Bank; the imposition of curfews on two towns; the indefinite closure of the largest Arab university and the threatened closure of the second largest; the arrest of the editor of one Arabic newspaper and the temporary closure of another.

Shopkeeprs were prevented from closing their stores here this morning as a protest against the new Israeli policy of dividing the military and civilian administration in the West Bank. Two who refused to open had their shops, complete with stock, welded shut for a 50-day punishment by troops using oxyacetylene.

Campus declared closed area

The 15,000 Palestinian residents of the hillside town of Beit Sahur, less than two miles away, are living under a strict military curfew imposed at midnight after Palestinian youths threw a Molotov cocktail at an Israeli military vehicle. Local Arabs claimed the weapon had been crudely made out of paint thinner and failed to explode. Another curfew was imposed in the town of Kalkilia after a similar fire bomb attack.

Israeli troops with a spiked road-block were this morning guarding the main entrance to Bethlehem's Vatican-financed university, the second largest in the West Bank, which has been the scene of frequent nationalist demonstrations since November 1 when Professor Menachem Milson, the West Bank civilian governor, took office.

I was refused entry, along with a United States correspondent, by an Israeli soldier who told us that the campus had been declared a closed area by the military government. It later emerged that three leading university administrators had earlier been summoned to the military government headquarters and warned that the campus would be shut in the next few days if demonstrations did not cease.

All schools in Bethlehem were closed and all telephone contact with nearby Beit Sahur prevented. At the sprawling Deheisha, on the outskirts of Bethlehem, troops clashed with stone-throwing crowds after piles of tyres had been burnt and illegal Palestinian flags unfurled.

Sharon's promises 'not kept'

Mr Elias Freij, the elected mayor of Bethlehem, in an interview with *The Times*, accused Mr Sharon of going back on pledges which he made in a meeting soon after taking up his portfolio.

"Among other things, he pledged that the Israelis would abandon collective punishments", the mayor said. "He also said that troops would be stopped going on to university campuses, but that is exactly what is happening."

Mr Freij, a Christian Arab, is generally regarded as one of the more moderate West Bank leaders and it had even been hoped by some officials that he might be one of those prepared to support the new civilian administration. He claimed today that the new policy had only worsened the atmosphere.

Elsewhere, Arab shopkeepers in East Jerusalem were ordered to end a 48-hour commercial strike which had turned the former Arab sector of the Israeli capital into a ghost town. Last night the commander of Israel's central command signed orders empowering his troops forcibly to open any Palestinian shops which remained closed.

In Ramallah, the scene of many recent disturbances, Israeli troops carrying riot sticks and automatic rifles toured the streets.



Terrorist ringleader: Adrian Jaber, aged 33, entering the court, where he was convicted, with three others, of the Hebron killing. Israeli authorities say he trained in the Soviet Union.

Death call at trial

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Nov 11

Israeli settlers demanding the death penalty disrupted a military court today in Nablus, on the West Bank when an Army prosecutor recommended life imprisonment for four Arabs convicted of a terrorist killing. They killed six Israelis walking home from religious services in Hebron on May 2, last year.

If the death sentences were passed it would make the killers the first Arab terrorists to be executed by Israel. Some of the protesters were ejected from the court. The convicted men will be sentenced on Tuesday.

Israel abolished the death penalty except for treason and Nazi war crimes, but the Arabs were tried under British regulations, which were incorporated into Israeli law and Jordanian law, which is still in force in the occupied West Bank.

The Government's policy has been never to ask military courts to impose death penalties, but the Cabinet, after the Hebron murders, announced a change of policy to permit prosecutors to ask for death in particularly brutal cases.

Residents of Kiryat Arba, a suburb of Hebron, who filled the courtroom, leapt up and shouted when Captain Haim Greenwald, the prosecutor, asked for life sentences. Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the settlers' spiritual leader, and others, were ejected.

Israeli MPs visit US to save Camp David

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 11

Six members of the Israeli Knesset arrived in Washington today on a visit to try to ensure that the United States remains committed to the Camp David accords as the only way of achieving a settlement in the Middle East and stops its flirtation with the rival Saudi Arabian peace plan.

The Saudi's eight-point formula implies recognition of Israel by confirming the right of all countries in the region to live in peace. It does not mention Israel by name. It also calls for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as its capital and proposes the removal of Israeli settlements from the occupied Arab lands. Palestinians, it says, should be allowed to return to their former homes and be paid compensation if they choose not to.

The group is led by Mr Moshe Arens, the chairman of the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee and a prominent hawk. He is tipped as the next ambassador to the United States when Mr Ephraim Evron, returns to Israel at the end of the year.

The group is equally divided between the ruling Likud Party and the opposition Labour Party. They will see Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and other senior members of the Administration as well as leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties and the press.

The decision to send the delegation was announced by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, 10 days ago after he had expressed concern over the interest which the Reagan Administration appeared to be showing in aspects of the Saudi eight-point peace plan. Mr Begin said the Saudi plan was a recipe for Israel's liquidation.

The visit coincides with a continuation of the talks between the Administration and diplomats from Britain, France, the Netherlands and Italy over European participation in the Sinai peacekeeping force.

The Europeans have indicated their wish to take part in the force when it is deployed next April but they want to avoid an open commitment to the Camp David accords which are rejected by all Arab states except Egypt. The Europeans want to pursue their own peace initiative which was launched last year in Venice and which would involve the eventual inclusion of the Palestinians in the peace process.

The United States and the four European governments are trying to find a formula which would permit their participation without jeopardizing the European initiative. A formal announcement of European participation has been delayed several times because of the difficulty in finding a formula acceptable to the Americans, the Israelis and the Arabs.

The different approaches to Middle East peace caused Mr Haig to remonstrate with the British last week in talks with Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador. Britain currently holds the presidency of the EEC.

☐ Mr Douglas Hurd, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office responsible for Middle Eastern affairs, has unexpectedly postponed a visit to Washington which was intended to clear the air of differences on Middle East policy (David Cross writes).

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the two-day visit had been put off at the last minute because of pressure of parliamentary business at Westminster.

The postponement came as a surprise to diplomatic observers who noted that the dates for this week's visit had been announced by the Foreign Office last Monday.

Because of the strained relations between London and Washington over Middle East peace plans, the delay prompted speculation that the British Government needed more time to prepare its case.

Reagan remarks 'regrettable'

☐ Jerusalem: Relations between Israel and the United States have come under new strain after the qualified approval given to the eight-point Saudi peace plan yesterday by President Reagan during his televised White House press conference (Christopher Walker writes).

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, today said that the President's statement was regrettable. He added that Israel was maintaining contact with the American Administration.

☐ New York: The United Nations General Assembly by a vote of 119—2 with 10 abstentions today classed Israel's air attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor on June 7 as a serious threat to peaceful nuclear energy development (AP reports).

☐ Riyadh: The second summit of the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council has given Saudi Arabia the go-ahead to put its Middle East peace plan to the Arab summit in Fez, Morocco, on November 25, according to the conference final communiqué published here today. The summit appealed for an end to superpower meddling.

Tass attacks Reagan 'nuclear blackmail'

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Nov 11

The Russians today called President Reagan's concept of a limited nuclear war dangerous and absurd, and said it reflected Washington's desire to use nuclear blackmail to achieve its foreign policy aims.

In a rejoinder to President Reagan's press conference yesterday, Tass repeated President Brezhnev's recent assertion that nuclear war could not be limited. If it broke out in Europe or elsewhere it would inevitably assume a worldwide character.

The agency said the American concept of a limited war stemmed from the "absurd assumption" that in the event of the United States making first use of nuclear weapons the Soviet Union would follow nuclear war scenarios worked out in Washington.

"Those who possibly hope to set ablaze the nuclear powder keg, while themselves sitting snugly aside, should not entertain any such illusions."

The agency said the Soviet and American positions were "diametrically opposite". The Soviet Union believed that any crossing of the nuclear threshold, be it a warning explosion or the use of minor nuclear weapons on the European battlefield, was extremely dangerous.

The Russians today dismissed American accusations that Soviet chemical agents have been used in South-East Asia and Afghanistan as "persistent, systematized nonsense", and accused the Reagan Administration of paranoia.

It described the hearings in the Senate foreign relations committee as a "low-standard slanderous undertaking"

Warning shot is still Nato option

By David Cross

Although there is still some confusion over whether or not Nato would fire a nuclear "demonstration" shot to try to prevent the Soviet Union from overrunning West Europe, Western military experts have no reason to doubt it remains a possibility.

No less an authority than Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, told reporters in Washington yesterday that the firing of a nuclear warning shot was a "Nato option plan".

Part of the confusion, according to defence experts, is the use of terminology like "plan", "strategy" or "concept". As Lord Carver, a former chief of the defence staff puts it: "The only people who have specific nuclear contingency plans with selected targets are the countries which own nuclear weapons like the United States and Britain". Nato has "concepts" about how the allies generally would fight a land and air war in Europe under different circumstances.

Lord Carver confirms that the idea of a demonstrative one-off shot has been going the rounds in the alliance since the early 1960s. He personally believes the notion absurd because there would be no guarantee of an equally gentlemanly reaction from the Soviet Union. It could unleash a massive counter-strike and leave everyone, including the enemy, in a worse position than if it had not been fired in the first place, he says.

Many American defence experts are not keen on the idea either. Mr Herbert Scoville, who served in senior defence and intelligence positions during four administrations, has told reporters he believes a warning shot would lead to an all-out nuclear war.

West urged to reciprocate Soviet curbs on foreigners

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, Nov 11

The United States has asked Western governments to tighten regulations which restrict the movement of Soviet diplomats, journalists and businessmen in their countries.

The request has been made on the basis of the American policy of "restraint and reciprocity" in its dealings with the Soviet Union. The Administration is underlining the need to reciprocate the tough curbs placed on all foreigners living and working in the Soviet Union.

Most western countries place some restrictions on the freedom of movement of Soviet citizens, but these are often not fully enforced. Emphasizing the need for reciprocity, Washington wants its European allies to be as rigorous in restricting the movement of Russians as they are in preventing foreigners from travelling outside Moscow and other main cities without prior approval

Britain is strict in the way it controls the movement of Soviet officials, but other countries are more lenient, notably the Scandinavians. These are the countries which Washington is now trying to encourage to be more rigorous in enforcing their own regulations.

South Africans warned of forced sterilization

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Nov 11

A stir has been caused here by a warning from a senior government official that compulsory sterilization and abortion might become necessary in the future to contain South Africa's population growth, especially among blacks, if family planning measures are not accepted voluntarily.

Failure to get the growth rate down would plunge the country into chaos and misery, Dr J. de Beer, director-general of the Department of Health and Welfare, said in evidence yesterday to the science committee of the President's Council, an advisory body set up last year by the Government to make proposals on constitutional and other questions.

It had to be realized "that it is not easy to get the birth rate down other than by penalizing people and having sterilization and abortion both on demand and by command, as it already is in some countries", Dr de Beer told the committee.

"This, of course, is not an acceptable population policy for South Africa, but unless all the population groups accept family planning on a voluntary basis, future generations will have to take these other, less pleasant, compulsory measures", he said.

Family planning, he said, was not a white man's device to control black numbers, but a simple demographic necessity. Black poverty was caused by too few jobs, "and there are too few jobs because there are too many people".

Dr de Beer's remarks were, none the less, primarily directed at the black population, which is growing much faster than other racial groups. Many blacks will undoubtedly see them as mainly reflecting the white minority's fear that its monopoly of political power could be threatened as the population imbalance gets worse.

The answer to that, Dr de Beer contended, was that unless the birth rate was curbed voluntarily "circumstances will deteriorate to such an extent that a lowering of fertility would in any case have to follow, whether by compulsory measures from the state, or by a rise in mortality and misery".

According to Dr de Beer, the maximum population South Africa could sustain without strain would be about 68 million, because of limited water supplies. "In demographic terms we are just around the corner from 68 million".

On the face of it this seems rather alarmist. The latest predictions estimate that the population of 27,319,980 will rise to 38,404,800 by the year 2000, and 47,304,870 by the year 2020. So Dr de Beer's "maximum" is still some way off. Moreover, water supplies could improve if joint plans to tap Lesotho's abundant resources are successful.

There is no doubt, however, that population trends are worrying for whites, implying that they would drop from 16.46 per cent of the population today to 13.2 per cent by the end of the century. By the year 2020 the black population is expected to rise from 19.5 million to about 37 million, increasing its share of the total from 71.3 per cent to 77.8 per cent.

The white birth-rate had declined to the point where the white population is barely reproducing itself, and the trend is towards zero growth as in most industrialized countries. Blacks are, by contrast, growing by 1.6 per cent a year, the mixed-race Coloureds by 1.13 per cent, and Asians by 1.11 per cent.

Historically, immigration has added on average between 20,000 and 30,000 a year to the white population (after deducting emigrants).

Fighting in Chad close to frontier

Ndjamena, Chad, Nov 11.—Fierce fighting broke out early today in eastern Chad near the frontier with Sudan, according to sources here.

The fighting centred on the towns of Iriba and Adré and involved the Armed Forces of the North (FAN) of Mr Hissène Habré, the rebel former defence minister, and troops of the Revolutionary Democratic Council of Mr Acyl Ahmat Aghbach, the Foreign Minister.

It comes after two days of infiltration across the border by the FAN, the sources said. The number of troops involved and details of their weapons were not known.

Iriba, Adré and Guéréda weree among the first towns to be evacuated by Libyan troops after Libya's decision on November 3 to pull out at the request of president Goukouni Oueddei. Mr Acyl's forces, which are generally considered pro-Libyan, took over control of the towns after the Libyans left.

No comment from the Government was available on the resumption of internal fighting, FAN was thrown out of Ndkamena at the beginning of this year after violent fighting when President Goukouni called on the Libyans for aid.

The Libyan news agency Jana, monitored in Paris, said all Libyan troops had withdrawn from Iriba and Guéréda and were no longer responsible for their defence.

However, the Zairean advance guard of the pan-African peacekeeping force for Chad has had to postpone its arrival to Ndjamera because the airport was blocked by withdrawing Libyans, a reliable sourse said today.

About 500 Zairean paratroops were expected on board French military aircraft last Sunday, but 18 rooms reserved for their officers in the capital's two main hotels were still empty.

In the past 48 hours the Libyan withdrawal has speeded, with aircraft flying out night and day. Yesterday seven Libyan aircraft — two Ilyushin 76's, two Hercules and three DC8's — were loading military equipment at the same time.

Mr Kassire Delwa Kamoukoye, the Justice Minister, said today the arrival of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) force was still imminent. It depended only on the availability, possibilities and goodwill of each of the participating countries.

There was no point in assembling all the contingents at Lagos before dispatching them to Chad. "Chad is big enough to take them all", he said.

☐ Lagos: Foreign Ministers of participating countries in the OAU will make final arrangements for the dispatch of the troops when they meet in Lagos tomorrow.

Zimbabwe's new army

Civil war guerrilla factions united

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Nov 11

The military integration exercise in Zimbabwe has been completed, ending a programme which military authorities believe has few parallels in history.

The process, to fuse three hostile military forces into a single national army at the end of a civil war, ended as the last of the 40 batallions integrated under British trainers passed out last week. Meanwhile, senior officers were considering the next consolidation stage.

There have been a number of occasions since the formation of the first unit when faction fighting between Zipra and Zanla guerrillas in a taut political atmosphere could have wrecked the plan.

Given that background, and the events of February when three batallions disintegrated in bloody fighting in and around Bulawayo, there is an atmosphere of buoyant confidence in military headquarters here.

The British Military Advisory and Training Team (BMATT), working with senior officers of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanla force and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra and members of the former Rhodesian security forces, started integrated training in June last year.

By the end of the year, nine batallions had been formed and plans were in hand to speed up the operation. From January, three batallions a month were being formed and by the end of last month 40 batallions comprising about 44,000 former guerrillas had been through the so-called "super sausage machine".

Of the 40 units, three were dissolved after February's violence and the soldiers redeployed in new battalions. With another three former Rhodesian African Rifles Battalions and three specialist units, the Zimbabwe national army has about 50,000 man and a total, including support units, of about 65,000. That is one of Africa's biggest armies.

☐ Nairobi: A two-man team from the Commonwealth Secretariat is in Uganda to assess how a commonwealth military training team can help President Milton Obote to raise standards in his army (Charles Harrison writes).

A British Army major and a sergeant are carrying out the study, and have met Ugandan Ministers and military leaders. They are due to report to the Commonwealth Secretariat next week.

Several Commonwealth countries have said they will contribute to a joint training mission which has been requested by Uganda.

US and Tunisia discuss closer military links

From Godfrey Morrison, Tunis, Nov 11

The United States has pledged continuing support for the independence and security of Tunisia, whose main defence worry is its immediate eastern neighbour, Colonel Gaddafi's Libya.

A warm statement of support "For our very good friend, President Bourguiba, and our very good friends, the Tunisians" came from Mr Francis West, the United States Assistant Defence Secretary, after a one-hour meeting with the Tunisian leader yesterday.

The meeting came after two days of discussions here by the joint American-Tunisian Military Commission, whose establishment was announced last week.

Diplomatic sources said that the Commission discussed ways to deepen bilateral military cooperation and ways to increase the effectiveness of Tunisia's modest armed forces. Although Washington supplies arms to several Arab states, the only other Arab state with which military cooperation has been formalized to the extent of a joint commission is Jordan.

Washington agreed a $95m (about £52m) military loan to Tunisia a couple of months ago and has offered to sell the Tunisians 54 M60 tanks and five F5 fighter jets. The sale was discussed at the talks, the sources said.

Tunisia shares American concern about Libya because in January last year a group of Libyan-trained Tunisians took over, and managed to hold for a couple of days, the southern town of Gafsa, in what was planned as the start of a general uprising against the Government.

Tunisia is one of America's closest friends in the Arab world even though it disapproves of the Camp David process. A few days ago Mr Beji Kaid Essebsi, the Foreign Minister, described relations with Washington as friendly and privileged.

Tunisian armed forces are lightly armed because the Government has always been reluctant to spend lavishly on defence (in recent years defence has taken between 8 and 10 per cent of government spending) but the Gafsa incident gave the Tunisians a nasty shock and in recent months they have been casting round their other arms suppliers such as France, Italy and Austria with a view to modernizing their defence capability.

Leading the faithful: Pope John Paul II conducts the crowd joining him in song during yesterday's weekly general audience in the Vatican's modern audience hall.

Castro says US is set for invasion

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 11

The *Washington Post* today published a letter in its correspondence column from President Fidel Castro in which the Cuban leader claimed that reports of Cuban troops in Nicaragua were part of "a campaign of falsehood and lies" by the United States Government. It was aimed at setting the stage for American intervention against Cuba, he alleged.

The two-page letter, which was received by the newspaper yesterday, denounced a report published last month by Mr Rowland Evans and Mr Robert Novak, the syndicated columnists, which stated that between 500 and 600 crack Cuban troops had been flown secretly to Nicaragua in September.

The report added that the troops were intended to help to set up a Marxist revolutionary goverament in eastern El Salvador, and suggested that the Cubans may have been behind the destruction last month of a strategic bridge over the Lempa river in eastern El Salvador.

In his letter President Castro described the report as "truculent and absolutely false".

The Cuban leader's letter reflects what appears to be a conviction in Cuba, fuelled by recent statements by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, that the United States is considering military action against Cuba and Nicaragua.

At his press conference yesterday, President Reagan said twice that Washington had no plans to intervene militarily in Central America.

Armistice Day unity honoured in France

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 11

Five thousand torch-bearing ex-servicemen marched slowly up the Champs Elysées tonight to the Arc de Triomphe between two rows of national servicemen carrying red, white and blue lamps, and formed a guard of honour around President Mitterrand when he rekindled the Flame of Memory on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Among them were 41 former pilots of both world wars from 10 allied countries and from West Germany, who came especially to Paris for the occasion.

The President had expressed the wish that the ceremonies marking this year's Armistice Day should be especially impressive and colourful. They coincide with the sixtieth anniversary of the solemn burial under the Arc on January 28, 1921, of the unknown soldier, chosen from among three unidentified servicemen by M Auguste Thin, who was present today.

Like the July 14 celebrations, M Mitterrand was anxious that this year's Armistice Day should be an occasion to demonstrate in a spectacular fashion the close communion between the nation and its Army, in the spirit of the conscripts of the French Revolution in 1793.

Among those attending were four British pilots, 11 Americans, including Colonel Charles Dolan, the last survivor of the volunteers of the famous Lafayette squadron, eight Canadians, seven Frenchmen, five Hungarians, one Italian, and one South African.

Among the three West Germans were two pilots of the squadron of von Richthofen, the German air ace in the First World War, and a Messerschmitt 109 pilot who served on the Russian front in teh seccond.

Each of 41 pilots had at least five "kills" to his credit, but some, like George Vaughan, the most decorated airman of the American Air Force; Lord Balfour; the German Carl August von Schönebeck and the Frenchman Louis Chartione, have many more. Receptions were given for them at the British and American embassies, and the Air Ministry. The American group is being flown back to the United States by Concorde by courtesy ofn Air France.

In the morning, the president laid a wreath at the Arc de Triomphe in honour of the million and a half French dead of two world wars. A thousand troops from all three services were on parade, and massed on either side of the Unknown Soldier's Tomb were the national flags of 100 associations of French and foreign ex-servicemen, including the British and American Legion and those of 41 disbanded French regiments

Last minute hitch hits the shuttle

From Nicholas Hirst, Cape Canaveral, Nov 11

Space shuttle scientists today were trying to solve a problem in the electronic system which relays flight information to ground control at Houston.

Officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) emphasize that the problems which keep arising with the space shuttle Columbia are to be expected in a vehicle still in its research and development phase.

Britain says 'no' to FAO budget proposals

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Nov 11

Mr Neil Marten, Minister for Overseas development, bluntly told the conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization here today that the British Government could not support the agency's budget proposals.

Implicit in his speech were two criticsims. The first was that administrative expenses should be kept under better control. The increase in the budget proposed by Mr Edouard Saouma, the reelected Lebanese director-general, is from the current $278m to $368m (£196m).

The Americans attacked the budget yesterday and the organization is facing the difficulty of a growing reluctance by the main contributing nations to accept rising budgetary demands. Mr Marten said: "Like some other members, we have looked with a common concern at the growth in budgets of United Nations specialized agencies.

"We do not think a case has been made for FAO's proposed rate of budget growth at the present time. We ask no more of FAO than we are trying to achieve in our own government administration in the United Kingdom."

His second implied objection was that the distribution of aid did not ensure most help to the most needy. "We must also ensure that the poorest people have a diet which meets their needs", he said. "There are *indications* of clear progress worldwide but stagnation in Africa. It is often a matter of training in food hygiene.



The reports of the extinction of the yellow-fronted gardener bowerbird, have been exaggerated. This is a sketch of the bird, which has been found in a New Guinea rain forest. The species was thought dead for 85 years. The name comes from the bower built by the male for courting.

Schmidt in jobless talks

Bonn, Nov 11 — Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, was meeting West German union leaders, industrialists and bankers tonight to discuss rising unemployment amid signs of government disarray over economic policy.

Herr Schmidt, under pressure from the unions and his Social Democratic Party to take action against unemployment, told Cabinet ministers today to stop making contradictory statements about the economy. Herr Kurt Becker, the chief government spokesman, said the Chancellor complained about a "taste for self-advertisement" amid government politicians.

Tonight's talks are expected to discuss trade union proposals for big job creation schemes to deal with the worst unemployment since 1952. It now stands at 1.35 million — 5.9 per cent of the workforce — and ministers have said it may go above two million next year. — Reuter.

STRIP SHOW STUDENTS EXPELLED

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Nov 11

Sixteen students have been expelled from South Africa's leading university for theological studies for attending a strip show. They were brought before a disciplinary committee at the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education in the south-west Transvaal after a party to celebrate the end of the academic year.

They had hired a stripper to entertain them in factory premises well away form the university.

Five of the sudents have been expelled from the university with immediate effect. One of them was banned for life, the other four may apply for readmission over the next few years. The expulsion of the other 11 students was suspended on condition that they commit no further misdemeanours.

A number of other students were expected to appear before the disciplinary committee

Antigua joins UN

New York.— Antigua and Barbuda claimed its seat in the United Nations General Assembly yesterday to become the 157th member state. One of the smaller members, the caribbean island group has a population of only 75,000.

India maintains stand on nuclear fuel

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, Nov 10

The supply of nuclear fuel to India by the United States, an important irritant in the "uncomfortable" relationship between the two countries, may at last be settled in talks starting in Washington on Thursday.

There are signs that the agreement under which the United States sells enriched uranium to India will be ended. It seems that both sides would like to see it cancelled, but neither wishes to be seen taking the initiative. In any case, there are almost as many difficulties in ending it as in sustaining it.

The argument not only sours Indo-American relations, but also touches on the sensitive mater of Indian pride in technological achievement and the determination to be self-sufficient which strongly characterizes Indian attitudes.

In particular, India wants the self-respect and prestige, as well as the practical benefits, of a strong atomic energy programme.

It is a veteran nuclear nation, with 28,000 people working in 25 establishments. It showed a certain capability with its test explosion in the Rajasthan desert in 1974, but, while initial progress was good and hopes high, the programme has slowed in the past few years.

India did not have the broad and strong industrial network vital to the growth of a nuclear industry. Energy production has fallen far short of targets. It had been predicted that by this year the capacity of atomic power stations would be 8,000 megawatts (MW), whereas in fact it is 640 MW. Work on 12 big schemes has fallen up to four years behind and costs have doubled.

In the next five years, however, the country hopes to have an extra 960 MW capacity in plants built and fuelled without foreign help, the 20-year aim is to have a nuclear capacity of 10,000 MW, about 10 per cent of the national requirement.

Atomic plants which will start operating during the next few years will help to make India self-sufficient in fuel. It is estimated that three power stations expected to go into production by 1986 will make about 880lb of plutonium a year.

India regards this kind of independence as fundamental. Its first nuclear power station, at Tarapur, 50 miles north of Bombay, is American-built and American-fuelled.

In 1963 the United States agreed to ship uranium rods to Tarapur for 30 years. In the past four years, however, supplies have been delayed and withheld because of American displeasure with India's refusal to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to submit plants to international monitoring. Moreover, American legislation of 1978 made the supply of fuel illegal.

India took exception to what it regarded as an attempt by a powerful country to dictate to a developing one. It regarded the insistence on inspection as hypocritical in view of the refusal of countries like the United States to open their own plants.

India received its last shipments, totalling 38.6 tons, last year, but only after the United States Senate supported President Carter's decision to honour the agreement and to shore up the relationship.

The Americans say the agreement gives them the right to Tarapur's spent fuel. India says that if the United States cancels the agreement it must drop this claim. It goes to the Washington talks looking for an American decision on the arrangement, suggesting that prevarication will count as annulment.

Whatever happens in Washington, India has already said firmly that Tarapur fuel belongs to India and it does not need American permission to process it. The question of whether India should develop nuclear weapons with power station by-products remains open. India insists on making an independent decision.

Moscow comes out fighting over submarine

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 11

The Soviet Union today vigorously denied that submarine No. 137 which went aground near the Karlskrona Swedish naval base was engaged in espionage or carrying nuclear warheads.

In the first substantial comment on the affair, which has severely strained Soviet relations with Scandinavia, Tass today accused Washington of raising a hullabaloo over what it called a routine navigation error in order to discredit Soviet proposals for a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe.

A defiant commentary repeated the Soviet submarine captain's assertion that the ship's navigation instruments failed on a training trip. It said Western propaganda had seized on this incident to "fan anti-Soviet passions and military hysteria". Hostile Western reaction was disproportionate to the incident and clearly politically motivated, Tass said.

"Why and who should need to dramatize such an ordinary, routine incident at sea, especially in a sea such as the Baltic with its complicated floor relief and coastline?" the agency asked.

The answer, it went on, was the Reagan Administration. Washington was using the incident to dispel anti-American sentiment in Europe. Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, was conducting the orchestra of misinformation.

Tass said the movement to set up a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe and protests against the deployment of new Nato missiles were gaining ground in Western Europe, especially Scandinavia. These protests were becoming more anti-American in character as it was the United States that wanted to deploy the new missiles.

Washington had, therefore, used the incident to muffle the protests of those people demanding an end to the nuclear arms race. The Americans wanted to deploy real missiles with real warheads in Europe, not mythical missiles said to be on board the Soviet submarine.

The commentary indicates the way the Russians have decided to handle this damaging affair. It makes no mention of Swedish protests and the anger throughout Scandinavia, as the Russians are reluctant to admit that their proposals for a nuclear-free zone have lost credibility. Two days ago Tass pointedly spoke of support in Scandinavia for the proposals.

The denial that the submarine was carrying nuclear warheads is also curiously indirect, and is based wholly on the doubts expressed in the West by Western experts and commentators. Such is the military secrecy surrounding the submarine's real mission that even official Soviet commentaries are not authorized to state categorically what the submarine was doing or refer to Soviet military information to say what weapons the submarine was carrying.

The aggressive tone of the commentary suggests that Moscow has no intention of apologizing or admitting any breach of Swedish territorial sovereignty.

□ Stockholm: Sweden's armed forces will hold their largest military exercises for about 12 years in the far north of the country next March, a defence staff spokesman said today. (Reuter reports). He said the manoeuvres, involving 20,000 men, had been planned for more than a year.

□ Washington: Mr Bush today ridiculed Moscow's claims that the Soviet Union was dedicated to peace and taunted the Kremlin over the Soviet submarine in Sweden. (AP reports).



Streamlined to save fuel: The first Boeing 757 nearing completion in Renton, Washington state, after the recent fitting of its vertical and horizontal tail sections. The fuselage of the new airliner was joined with the wing three weeks ago and the landing gear has been put in. Wing-control surfaces, engines, wiring and tubing have still to be installed. The aircraft should be rolled out in mid-January. At the upper left is the 757 static-test airframe's mid-fuselage section, which will be taken to Boeing's flight centre in Seattle, where it will be joined to other fuselage sections for installation in a test rig.

Poland looks back on 1918

Communists join big independence rallies

Warsaw, Nov 11.—Poland today marked its 1918 Independence Day on an unprecedented scale, with the Communists joining in celebrations of an event they used to shun.

Mr Henry Jablonski, the head of state, led the main ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw. 'Poland's reemergence as an independent state in 1918, had been hitherto ignored by the Communists since they took power after the Second World War. The official news agency PAP said today's ceremony was a gathering of all who sought a national front of understanding. But there were signs that this was still a distant goal. The free trade union movement Solidarity did not officially take part and labour and student unrest continued throughout the country.

Solidarity leaders in Warsaw planned to join in a huge rally tonight organized by a non-communist committee including dissidents, independent students and a group campaigning on behalf of what it calls political prisoners.

Mr Lech Walesa, the solidarity leader, continued his campaign to persuade workers to negotiate, instead of striking. He met strikers at the Sosnowiec coal mine and was due to travel later to the region of Zielona Gora, paralysed by a general strike for more than three weeks.

The Sosnowiec miners, who are staging a sit-in below ground, want the national television to broadcast a programme explaining how gas was thrown at a crowd of women, children and workers outside their colliery.

Mr Walesa told a rally of the miners that a solution of Poland's problems "by strength does not come into consideration, but it cannot be excluded".

Another sit-in, by farmers in Siedlce, east of Warsaw, appeared to be growing into a nationwide protest with delegates from Rural Solidarity arriving there from all over Poland.

National leaders of Rural Solidarity last night gave their blessing to the Siedlce protesters whose 27 demands include constitutional guarantees for private farmers, religious instuction in state schools, their own national weekly publication and free office space for the union's branches.

Student strikes spread to at least five cities, and a strike by newspaper delivery men in the south-west stopped papers in four regions for the second day running.

The Communist Party Politburo said last night that the continued unrest was damaging the economy and Soviet-block alliances and added that a front of national accord could function properly only in social peace. The idea of such a front was floated during last week's meeting between Church, Communist Party and Solidarity leaders.

The Politburo called for further talks at all levels, but Solidarity said it was awaiting an official reply to its request for negotiations to begin in Warsaw on Friday.—Reuter.

Minister's warning on refugees

□ Mr Jozef Czyrek, the Polish Foreign Minister, said in Vienna today at the end of a three day official visit that Poland would regard it as an unfriendly act if Poles who are now leaving the country and seek to settle abroad, were recognized as political refugees. He said that Poland had no political refugees (David Blow writes from Vienna).

More than 17,000 Poles have come to Austria in the first nine months of this year and their undefined status is one of the factors complicating their eventual resettlement elsewhere. Mr Czyrek made it clear that Poland would like to regularize their status through bilateral agreements.

Prisoners' rights defended

Manila, Nov 11.—An International Red Cross conference today condemned governments which engineer or condone the disappearance of political opponents.

In a resolution adopted by a vote of 111-0, with abstentions by Syria and Argentina, the conference expressed alarm over such disappearances which, it said, were "perpetrated, contrived at or consented to by governments".

Delegates from 121 national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and at least 72 nations are attending the twenty-fourth international conference of the Red Cross. The resolution condemning diappearances was adopted by the Commission on Protection and Assistance. It was introduced by the Norwegian Red Cross and cosponsored by representatives from Colombia, Senegal, the Etherlands, Jordan, Cuba and Austria.

The resolution did not identify any of the governments resorting to the practice of official disappearance, but the Norwegian delegation circulated a private study quoting Amnesty International and the United Nations Human Rights Commission as saying up to 13,000 such disappearances had been reported by 1980 in at least 15 countries.

The study identified some of them as "Afghanistan, Argentina, Chile, Cyprus, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatamala, Indonesia, Iran, Nicaragua and countries on souther Africa.

The resolution also asked the Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross to take any appropriate action that might reveal the fate of these missing people.—AP.

Pollution kills Japanese fauna

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Nov 11

Industrial pollution, a by-product of Japan's economic success, has poisoned the atmosphere to such a degree during the past three decades that entire species of reptiles, fish, insects, birds and other forms of wildlife have disappeared from large areas of the country and are threatened with extinction, a government survey said today.

Doctors at Japan's National Cancer Centre claim that laboratory experiments on rats show that chemicals contained in diesel fumes are a source of cancer.

Officials in Japan's Environmental Agency who have studied the effects of pollution on wildlife during the past three years said they were shocked by the results of their survey. "We did not think things were this bad when we started the project", a spokesman for the agency said.

The study, carried out with the help of 100,000 officials at a cost of £1.2m shows that many species of insects and birds face extinction or are extinct because rivers, ponds, streams, marshes and other sources of water have been polluted by industrial waste.

Although Japan has taken great strides in clearing up industrial pollution in recent years, the survey shows that the country's "economic miracle" will leave a permanent scar on its wildlife.

The survey said: "The numbers of dragonflies, fireflies, salamanders and other forms of insects, birds and animals living in ponds and waterways all over Japan have decreased drastically and in some cases they are extinct or face extinction."

The giant water bug, once found in ponds and waterways throughout Japan, has disappeared in nine prefectures and is nearly extinct. Scientists could identify only 133 of the 201 types of dragonfly which used to live in Japan before it began its postwar climb to emerge as the world's second leading industrial power in the 1980s.

Salamanders, a protected species because of a belief that a person who eats the reptile will enjoy a long life, are being destroyed in polluted waters. The numbers of many species of fresh-water fish, such as the Japanese bitterlings and sticklebacks have decreased drastically.

Mr Koichi Watanabe, an ornithologist, said that the population of water birds, such as duck and heron, had shrunk to a dangerous level

BALLOON IN PACIFIC CROSSING

Portland, Oregon, Nov 11.—The "Double Eagle" V balloon and its four-man crew, which lifted off from Nagashima, Japan, drifted across the northern Pacific yesterday, the first day of its Trans-pacific flight, a spokesman for the balloonist said.

"If things continue the way they are going, it should cross the Oregon coast near Astoris about 2am tomorrow" the spokesman added. But balloons cannot be steered — they go where the winds take them — so it is impossible to predict where they will end up.

In Albuquerque, New Mexico, Miss Jane Woodward, the team spokesman said the balloon was about 1,050 miles from Japan by late yesterday afternoon.—AP.

WAR ENDS AFTER 172 YEARS

From Our Correspondent Copenhagen, Nov 11

One hundred and seventy two years of hostilities between Denmark and Huescar, a tiny southern spanish village near Granada were officially ended today.

A formal armistice between the two warring parties was signed at a ceremony in Huescar.

Whilst the rest of Spain has never been at war with Denmark, the council of Huescar, infuriated by Denmark's decision to side with France against Britian during the Napoleonic Wars, declared war on Denmark in 1809. Denmark had been unaware until recently of the fact that a state of belligerency still existed

Figueiredo returns to power

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo, Nov 11

Vice-President Antônio Aureliano Chaves, the first civilian to rule Brazil since 1964, is to hand power back to President João Figueiredo tomorrow after occupying the presidency for 51 days. The President handed over temporarily after suffering a heart attack.

A taboo has been broken, and it no longer seems inevitable that President Figueiredo will be succeeded by another four-star general when his six-year term ends in 1985. Senhor Aureliano Chaves, behaving with considerable discretion, has made a profound mark in Brasilia. He improved his chances for the succession and opened it up for other candidates from among state governors and elsewhere.

The calm of the period has allayed fears that civilian rule would be chaotic and shown that key figures in Brasilia are now prepared to try using constitutional methods for solving unexpected crises.

When an earlier military president was incapacitated, in 1969, power did not pass to his civilian vice-president but was retained by the military. This time, although there were indications that a small group would have prefered it to be otherwise, most influential generals seem to have considered that the constitution could be adhered to without risk.

The episode also brought fresh air to a political scene which was growing tense, as the unpopular government seeks ways of maintaining power through the Social Democratic party (PDS) which supports it. Elections are scheduled for next November. During Senhor Aureliano Chaves's short tenure the party lost a vote in Congress which may make it more difficult for the PDS to win as many state governorships as had been hoped.

Several government members voted with the Opposition or abstained, but the vote was accepted in a way which might not have been the case had General Figueiredo been in the presidential palace.

The period has also seen further weakening of the extremely centralized system of power which had already suffered a blow with the departure of the powerful General Golbery do Couto e Silva in July. Power now seems to be slipping from the small group of men, most of them generals, who have for several years met daily with the President.

General Figueiredo has said that more power will be given to his Vice-President in future.

French play down Peking love affair

From Charles Hargrove Paris, Nov 11

M Michel Jobert, the French Foreign Trade Minister, who returned this morning from a visit to China, tried to play down the dispute over a romance between a French diplomat in Peking and a Chinese woman artist.

Miss Li Shuang was sentenced on Monday to two years in a reeducation camp for staying in M Emmanuel Bellefroid's room and for "incitement to debauchery".

M Jobert anxious to avoid repercussions on France's relations with China. M Louis Mermaz, has urgd the Chinese Government to release Miss Li Shuang. He hoped the matter could be settled beore he led a delegation of the steering committee of the Assembly to Peking in January.

At Roissy airport this morning M Jobert said: "I am not bitter, but I am very sorry about it." He refused to regard the fact that the announcement of the sentence on Miss Li Shuang was timed to take place when he arrived in the Chinese capital. "If there is an unfortunate coincidence, we accept it as such."

The Chinese Embassy in Paris said in a statement that the case was not "the problem of a love affair between Li-Shuang and Emmanuel Bellefroid, but a 'flagrant violation' of Chinese law".

"It is quite in order for China, as a sovereign state, to settle the case of Li-Shuang in accordance with Chinese law, and has nothing to do with Sino-French relations. We are convinced that our French friends will be able to understand this decision, which is entirely a Chinese internal affiar."

It is clear that they do not and that Paris will discreetly keep up pressure on the Chinese to pardon Miss Li-Shuang.

□ Peking: China's disclosure that a guard at the French Embassy had married a Chinese woman is intended to show that Peking draws a line between ordinary love matches and the Bellefroid case.—AFP.

Hongkong looks to bright future after 1997

From Richard Hughes Hongkong, Nov 11

Pronouncements of Peking and Hongkong officials have raised hopes for the Crown Colony's future after 1997, when the 99-year lease on the New Territories expires.

In Peking, Mr Liao Chengzhi, China's Director of Overseas Affairs, has given renewed assurances to visiting Chinese business leaders from Hongkong about the colony's future "so long as Hongkong remains useful to China".

Mr Jimmy McGregor, the director of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, has predicted that Hongkong's status would continue into the next century "because China will reach an accommodation with Britain by 1985."

A recent government census has revealed that Hongkong's population of 5,110,000m, while as dense as Tokyo's and New York's, is "much more affluent and better educated than 10 years ago".

Mr Fong Yun-wah, the vice-president of the Real Estate Developers' Asssociation of Hongkong, said that Mr Liao, who is also Vice-Chairman of China's National People's Congress, had emphasized the importance which Peking placed on its Hongkong compatriots' "personal and professional capabilities."

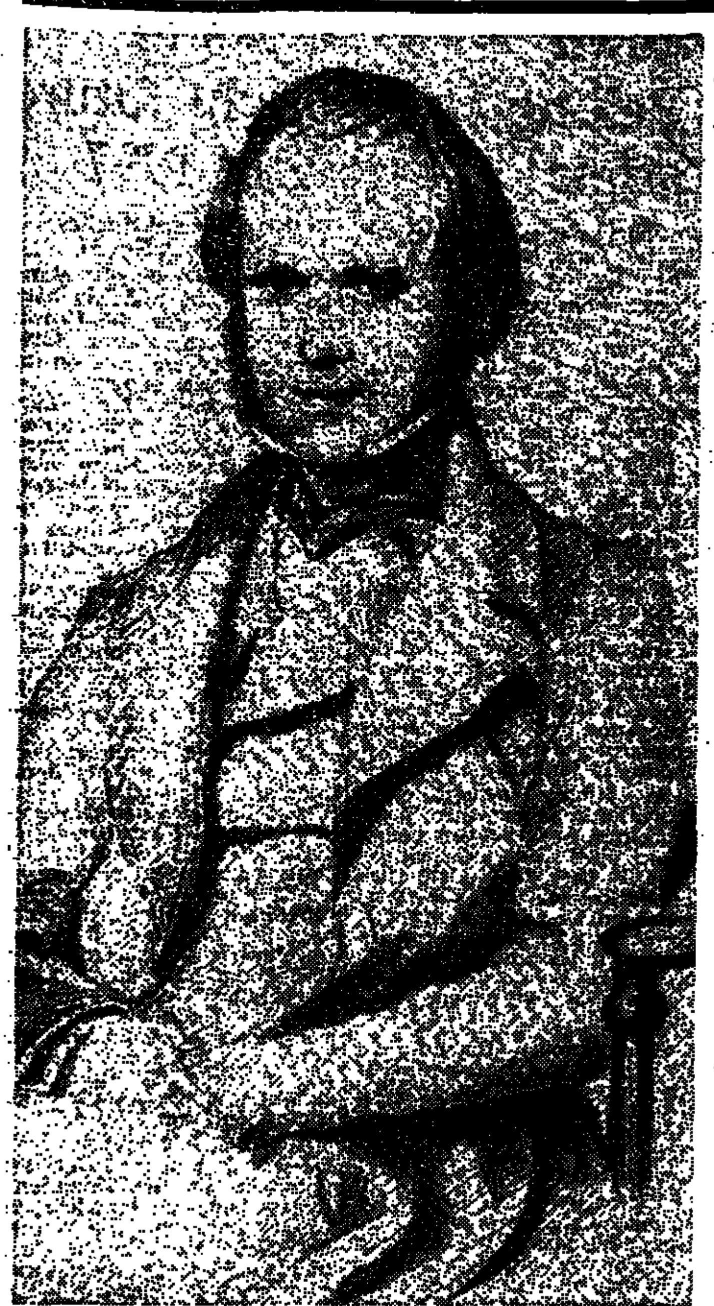
Mr Liao, however, had expressed concern over the weakness of the Hongkong dollar and the outflow of capital from the colony. He also gave Mr Fong a clear indication "that there was positively no formula — at least not yet — for the solution of the historical problems of Hongkong and Macao".

Mr Fong added, however, that "there are many cases of China signing trade and investment agreements with Hongkong and foreign investors in China's special economic zones beyond 1997.

CORRECTION

In the table of chess moves in the fourteenth game of the world championship yesterday, the 26th move by Korchnoi (black) should have read Q-K7 not Q-K2. The 42nd move by black should have been K-R1 not KtxP.

NEW BOOKS



On the Origin of a Victorian sage

Charles Darwin
By Peter Brent

(Heinemann, £12.50)

Apart from Walter Scott, Charles Darwin must have been the nicest really great man about whose character we have sufficient evidence to judge. He was, one might almost say, systematically kind: gracious in personal relations even in the face of violent assaults, loving and benevolent to those around him, constantly aware of and resistant to cruelty. His response to his often vehement critics was without rancour; he was roused to abuse only by the ill-natured mendacity of Richard Owen, the none too successful fight-manager of Samuel Wilberforce.

When Darwin's great ally and champion T. H. Huxley was going through a period of weariness and financial worry, Darwin got up a collection of £2,000 for him. Huxley was a fine and resonant writer but his note of thanks must still have some value as testimony. "Have I said a word of appreciation for your own letter?", he wrote to Darwin. "I shall keep it for my children that their children may know what manner of man their father's friend was and why he loved him."

He was modest, immensely resolute, and hard-working. At times in his long trip in the Beagle he showed great physical bravery, and throughout the five years suffered irremediably from sea-sickness. Credit should be given too for remaining on excellent terms for nearly all the time with that fine seaman but somewhat rugged character, Captain Fitzroy. Despite the harassments of illness and, less insistently, of intense public disapproval from most quarters, Darwin maintained a consistent level of gaiety and cheerfulness. That is something that tends to be disguised by the usual pictures which show him at a great age and heavily bearded.

His progressive family background may have disposed him to distaste for the institution of slavery, but his own temperament intensified the emotion. One of the first topics on which he came quite noisily to disagree with Captain Fitzroy, it remained a constant preoccupation. He felt strongly about child labour and opposed vivisection of a merely experimental kind, unjustified by a definite connection with the relief of human suffering. In an early statement of his fundamental idea — that man is a part of nature — this concern is present. "If we choose to let conjecture run wild then animals — our fellow brethren in pain, disease, death, suffering and famine, our slaves in the most laborious works, our companions in our amusements — they may partake from our origin in one common ancestor".

It is hardly surprising that the Darwin's butler stayed with them for 33 years.

Darwin died on April 6, 1882, and Peter Brent has got in early with the first centenary biography. His qualifications for the task are not obvious. He has had no scientific training and his previous writings have been on colourful figures such as Mungo Park, T. E. Lawrence and Captain Scott. More directly worrying is a book on Hindu gurus, the fruit of an acknowledged "interest in the mystical traditions of Asia". But apart from an occasional and not unreasonable reference to the visionary character of Darwin's belief in the all-inclusive unity of nature, contained in space and time and subject to a single scheme of laws, the mysterious East does not make its presence felt.

The style has some insecure moments, as when mention is made of "exclusive Shrewsbury School", "the echelons of the aristocracy", "lectures that enthused and encouraged young men" and "lifestyle". Too much time is spent on laborious conjecture about Darwin's amorous interests and activities. Much is made out of some chatty letters from a Fanny Owen in his pre-Beagle days. There is a bit of neat detection, to no serious purpose, about a near-miss involvement with a Miss Horner soon after he got back. There is less than perfect delicacy in some speculations about the secrets of the matrimonial couch, a reference to "images of ... Emma sexually available in the muffling darkness of that waiting Gower Street bedroom".

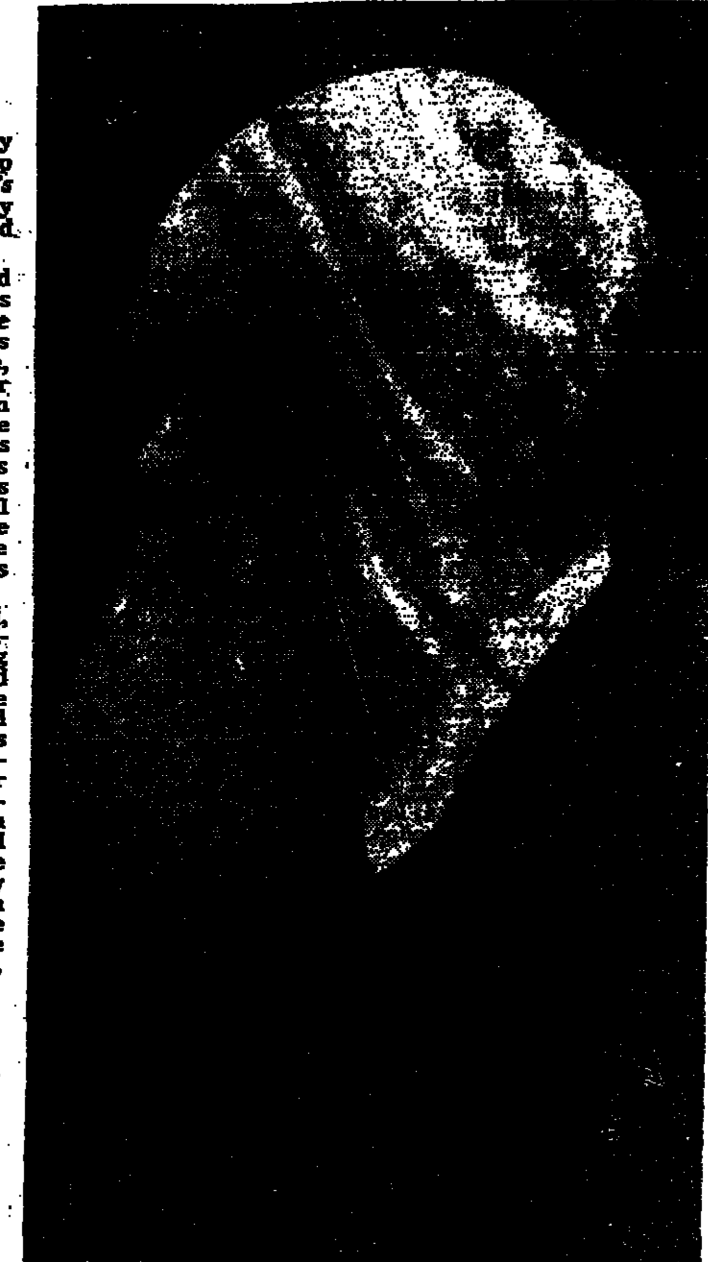
Darwin's life holds quite a lot of drama without these fantasies. The voyage of the Beagle proved that with the excellent television series. There was also the dreadful moment in 1858, the year before *The Origin of the Species*, when Wallace's letter came, saying that he had just hit on the idea of natural selection through reading Malthus, in the same way that Darwin had 20 years earlier. Peter Brent does well by the Oxford meeting of the British Association where Huxley gloriously demolished Bishop Wilberforce. *Macmillan's Magazine* said that "one lady fainted and had to be carried out".

His corrections of legend are more persuasive than his attempts to add to it. He points out that Darwin's relations with his father were, for the period, really rather good and also that Darwin was distinctly well off. He rejects the view that Darwin's long illness was Chagas's disease, picked up on his travels and not identified until 20 years after his death. One is reluctant to see this fine detergent of Freudian excess go, but a case is made.

The book gives a careful, faithful account of the development of Darwin's thinking and of the more concrete and immediately accessible aspects of its human and intellectual context. But this background is a bit insubstantial, as if got up specially for the occasion. Darwin is altogether too large a figure, both in the history of science and in the general intellectual life of his time, to be adequately handled so parochially. Given this lack of anchorage the book is too long and is made to seem longer by its ugly, overblown physical form.

Peter Brent's propensity for psychologizing pays off in his convincing linkage of Darwin's extreme good temper, self-disparaging modesty, country seclusion, even his illness as all facets of his determination to protect himself and his work from interference. But the full significance of that work is never made clear.

Anthony Quinton



The Pope's divisions

The Papacy in the Modern World
By J. Derek Holmes

(Burns & Oates, £9.95)

Despite the influence of strong personalities such as Mgr Benelli, and the revival of the consultative Synod of bishops, the Papacy remains obstinately autocratic in style and operation. Dr Holmes' brisk canter through its recent history, therefore, concentrates fairly enough on the policies and personalities of the Popes themselves from Benedict XV to John Paul I. Brief and questioning references to the present Pope round the book off as it began, in an atmosphere of external conflict and internal dispute. But the main theme of the book is the Popes' quest for peace and the defence of the integrity of the Catholic Church, and their implications for relationships between the Vatican and the power politics of secular states.

The narrative is crisp and readable, covering a remarkable amount of ground. When the author pauses for reflection on controversial issues, ranging from the condemnation of *Action française* to Papal attitudes towards the Nazi persecution of the Jews and the publication of the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, his judgments are generally favourable but judicious. The note of apologetics is subdued. Venturing a tentative judgment on Pope John Paul II, for example, Dr Holmes writes that this intelligent and attractive man *is very familiar with many of the problems, particularly some of the political problems, facing the contemporary papacy, yet at the same time he seems curiously unsympathetic and even comparatively indifferent to many important issues that have been discussed and argued by Catholics over the last few decades.*

This again emphasizes the importance of the personalities of the Popes in determining the active politics of the Papacy. And this makes it difficult to generalize about the evolution of the Papacy in modern times, although Dr. Holmes rightly claims that the moral prestige of the Papacy has risen at the time when the concept and understanding of infallibility has been qualified and modified.

His concise narrative provides a workmanlike brief for the debate on the influence of the Vatican. Would Brezhnev today ask sardonically, how many divisions has the Pope?

George Bull

Travels with a passionate donkey

An English Journey
By Richard West

(Chatto & Windus, £8.50)

Travelling around England with an innocent eye and an opinionated noddle has been a rich source of the higher journalism from Defoe, Boswell, and Cobbett to Chesterton and Orwell. There is nothing we English like better than to hear each other abused. Now Richard West has made his tour through the whole island of England to make this report, which is predictably sharp, lively, funny, and depressing.

Twenty years ago he started as a young reporter on *The Manchester Guardian*, becoming its Yorkshire correspondent. For most of the time since then he has been a foreign correspondent, reporting notably from Vietnam, black Africa, and Central Europe. So the great changes of the past 20 years in society, industry, townscape, and manners struck him more forcibly than those of us who stayed at home and became gradually accustomed to the tides of change that washed over us.

He started his journey in Manchester, partly because he is fond of the place, but also because he considers that it has endured to the full most of the follies besetting England — from city centre development, to local government reorganization, to being the seat of the Equal Opportunities Commission. Alas, poor country, as he worked his way clockwise around it, he found that things had mostly gone to the dogs; or, if not to the dogs, to public relations officers, Colonel Seifert, teeming bureaucrats, and the sex industry.

Some of his cries of outrage have become popular wisdom. Not many of us now have a good word to say for tower blocks, or the range of proper books one can buy at W. H. Smith's, or juke-boxes and fruit machines in pubs. But West screamed earlier and louder than most of us. Sometimes, for instance when he attacks feminism as wicked, or states that the move of *The Guardian* to London lost the character of the newspaper as well as a lot of money, one might suspect him of doing it to annoy, because he knows it teases. But he means it.

England cannot be all bad while it continues to produce such passionate travellers.

Philip Howard

The crack in the glass

MI5 British Security Service Operations 1909-1945
By Nigel West

(Bodley Head, £7.95)

We have tended to see MI5 through a glass darkly. But now, face to face? Not precisely. Mr West has produced another example of what I think of as homogenized history. There is no apparatus of notes and specific references to sources. The list of acknowledgements in the preface is substantially to anonymous individuals — so how can we assess, for example, the credibility of "former members" of the intelligence services to whom thanks are offered? (Rejected old dogs can still have poisoned teeth). The narrative flows on, readably indeed, but its surface effect is that of a smooth concrete floor which looks fine until a small crack in the corner makes you doubt the tensile strength of the whole.

And such cracks are visible. The snatch by the SS of Major Stevens and Captain Best at Venlo in November 1939 — so disastrous for MI6's network in northern Europe — is well known. Mr West intensifies the sense of disaster by reproducing part of *Informationsheft Gross Britannien*, an intelligence summary printed in 1940 to supply, *inter alia*, a hit list for the Gestapo after a successful invasion of England. Our secret departments and many individual names are notified (though often inaccurately) with some forty attributions to Stevens and Best who yet, says Mr West, were allowed to retire after the war "without further action being taken against them". How come? We are entitled to more than mere damning by implication. Did they actually blab? Were they bugged, and imprudent conversations recorded? Were documents captured with them? These natural questions are left unanswered.

What are we to make of the passage about our double agent Dusko Popov, codenamed Tricycle, who with our connivance was sent by the Abwehr to the United States in 1941 with a questionnaire "much of which", says Mr West, "related to a United States Navy installation located at Pearl Harbor". So clumsy and dismissive a description of the main base of the United States Pacific Fleet makes one think of a reference to Portsmouth or Scapa Flow in terms of Wigan Pier. It may seem trivial, but it is disconcerting.

Indeed, such anomalies make one uneasy about accepting at full face value Mr West's laudatory account of MI5's formidable expansion from "one man and a clerk in 1909" by Vernon Kell, up to the point when, in 1940, he was summarily dismissed by Churchill as soon as Winston became Prime Minister. Can we really endorse this verdict on the pre-war "regulars" of MI5? "Their great assets were robust common sense and uncomplicated patriotism — admirable qualities in the world as it was then. They would have been out of their element in the increasingly technological and multinational intelligence world of today". John Buchan, where art thou now?

The interesting core of Mr West's narrative is his considerable elaboration of the account given by Sir John Masterman in *The Double Cross System* of how we deceived the Germans by misinformation transmitted from Britain by agents (living or fictitious) who in practice were manipulated by MI5. He has tracked and talked to several of these shadowy figures, FREAK, GARBO, METEOR, ZIGZAG etc. We must take his *broderie* on trust, but it and some intriguing photographs vividly extend our awareness of what, in terms of the Second World War, was certainly the most outstanding and sophisticated operation carried out by MI5. And, in any case, like a second Chapman Pincher, he has set the cat among MI5's pigeons.

Ronald Lewin

Fiction

Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful
By Alan Paton

(Cape, £6.95)

The Mockery Bird
By Gerald Durrell

(Collins, £7.50)

Alan Paton has mastered the secret of refining passion in white heat to write in cold irony. The very title is ironic, of this first volume of a trilogy which is more polemic than novel. *Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful*. Ah, but also how cruel.

Here unemotional reportage describes representative events of apartheid in the 1950s, starting with the passive resistance of the Defiance Campaign, when the dogged resolve of a committed young Indian girl to enter a library closed to non-whites contributes to formation of the Liberal Party. The end is at a point which Afrikaners seemed to foresee as a Golden Age, with the election of a yet more fanatical Governor in Natal and the defeat or flight of some leading Liberals.

The book is in the form of episodes, letters, news reports and straight descriptions, adding up to a harrowing indictment of apartheid, and a revelation equally of the bewildered resentment of those enduring it and of the sometimes puzzled righteousness of the ruling whites imposing it. Among more bizarre events are the self-destruction of "God's Gift to the Nation", a brilliant but arrogant theologian who succumbs to seducing a black girl — a police lure — and himself suffering the Immorality Act by which "a small sin of the flesh is made a great sin against the nation".

This is a harsh book on a harsh theme, but while it deals largely with man's inhumanity, towards the end signs of the triumph of man's humanity creep in. To read the work is a sobering experience.

A gentler yet still telling moral is pointed in Gerald Durrell's fable, *The Mockery Bird*. Zenkali is a ravishing Indian Ocean paradise which, surviving exploitation by Arabs, Portuguese, French, Dutch and British, is due for sacrifice to progress, namely carving out an airfield and flooding the valleys for a power-dam.

This joyous Eden, leisurely and lovingly described, is peopled entirely by stereotyped eccentrics, one single Serpent — as is proper — and best of all, the volcanic Old Etonian ruler, Kingy, "irresistible as an avalanche". All the right things happen for a fairy-tale, with some harmless fun over caricatured missionaries, conservationists, British rule, BBC and press. (*The Times* man is categorized as "harmless".)

Western determination to introduce the miseries of industry is complicated by rediscovery in the flood-area of two extinct species, the Mockery Bird, worshipped as a god, and its diet speciality the Ombu Tree. And the moral, gentle but serious ... we are all mutually interdependent, and Nature is better than airfields.

Gillian Bradshaw brings a powerful imagination to work on what it must be like to live in a time when magic, and the forces of darkness, still contend against the doomed world of light. **Kingdom of Summer** (Eyre Methuen, £6.95), second volume of a trilogy, is yet another gift for Arthurian buffs — and which of us, secretly or otherwise, is not? Gwalchmai (Gawain), as recounted by his self-appointed young farmer-servant Rhys, is on a mission for Arthur, and equally on a quest of his own for a young noblewoman he once betrayed.

There were Giants in the earth in those days, and the author makes a nice distinction between the attitudes of warrior-heroes, solid resourceful farmers like Rhys and his forebears, and the few townsmen, mean and suspicious. Dialogue is adequately 1980s-medieval and apart from a bit too much hot fair hair and hot blue eyes, and a tendency to eat "lunch", the author is one of those who enviably recapture the past.

The nature of friendship which comes suddenly into the lives of three diverse, lonely people is microscopically examined in Virginia Fassnidge's second novel, **Something Else** (Constable, £5.95). Amanda's purposeless existence, a void since her father's death, is filled almost magically by her discovery of an illegitimate brother, a run-down junk dealer in his late thirties. Between Gerald, whose initial motives are far from altruistic, his partner Denny, and Amanda, three secret and disparate associations evolve almost involuntarily, to a point beyond their control. If the denouement of *Something Else* has a touch of contrivance, the delicate nuances of this trio of uncomfortable relationships are here explored with a subtlety fulfilling the promise of the author's first book.

Finally, for sheer elegant entertainment, witty in concept and concise in phrasing, we have six tales by J. I. M. Stewart, with varied setting and content and a neat turn for the unexpected as well as agreeable complexity in character and situation. From the very start of the title story in **The Bridge at Arta** (Gollancz, £6.95), when an elderly widow finds herself at the outset of an exclusive "Sites and Flowers" Greek tour in the company of her prize-bore ex-husband, and worse still, that he doesn't even *recognize* her, we know ourselves in the hands of a master.

Mary Cosh

Crime

Shadow of a Doubt
By June Thomson

(Constable, £6.95)

The paperback racks scream with pulsating covers promising frenzied excitements within, and within, indeed, *often enough all sorts of* frenzied things are frenziedly splashed on to paper. But you *can write a book that is* simply gripping without any obvious excitements at all. If you are *Simenon*. And if, a lesser light but mentionable in the same paragraph, you are June Thomson. Take a fancy clinic in the Essex countryside, have a taut dinner party, then a disappearance, at last murder. But even when murder happens don't go for the gruesome, just simply describe people, their outward actions, the thoughts of some of them, their setting and the wider countryside around them. And by doing it as accurately as this, it all becomes vivid and it holds you.

A couple of examples. A man with "huge, blunt fingers" rolls himself a cigarette and "the little oblong of tissue paper appeared as fragile as a moth's wing". Now you see it: now you're there. And in the final confrontation both the murderer and quiet, intelligently sensitive Chief Inspector Finch sit down in armchairs opposite each other "leaning forward, so that the interview took on the air of an absorbing tête-à-tête". No histrionics, no leaping to suicide through a convenient window, but a scene that suddenly comes as vividly present to the mind as if it were on telly.

Underneath this vivid outward appearance there is a fine, deep understanding of what people are like, how they think, what makes them do as they do.

Zigzag, by Michael Kenyon (Collins, £6.50). Take two previously created sleuths, drop together into bubbling cauldron of Ireland with a pinch of kidnap and a corpse, and you can't go far wrong.

Stalking Point, by Duncan Kyle (Collins, £7.50). The Churchill-Roosevelt 1941 meeting and a wide-ranging double assassination plot with long, tense flying-boat finale.

Madrigal for Charlie Muffin, by Brian Freemantle (Hutchinson, £6.95). *Discredited* (in best tradition) spy Muffin in Rome imbroglio. Mysterious as you could wish, naughtily so occasionally.

The Pekin Target, by Adam Hall (Collins, £7.50). Quiller in China, his adversary an updated Fu Manchu (to be frank). But plenty of that yummy slowed-action fighting and blast-away pace.

Fields of Heather, by Alan Hunter (Constable, £5.95). Murder in sailing Suffolk, from an idea by William Shakespeare. Superintendent Gently investigates right down to final metaphysical pages.

The Ultimate Game, by Ralph Glendinning (New English Library, £6.95). A murder a day keeps the boredom at bay. In lush Connecticut suburb. In prose all a-tingle. Try not to guess who-done it.

H. R. F. Keating



Cinema

International superbeast

If John Landis's career continues on its present course, he will pass into Hollywood legend as the director who never made a flop. At the age of 31 he has five films under his belt all of which have recouped their costs several times over. His anarchic comedy *National Lampoon's Animal House* is one of the top ten biggest grossing films of all time and even his first venture, *Schlock*, which he describes as "perhaps the most self-indulgent movie ever made", became a cult hit and is still going the rounds of the college circuit in America. With credentials like these, it seems extraordinary that he should have had to wait 11 years before being given the opportunity to make his latest film, *An American Werewolf in London*, which opens here this week. The script, which he wrote himself, was turned down by every major studio and it was only after his last film, *The Blues Brothers*, had made so much money that he was finally able to go ahead.

The film does represent something of a change of direction for Landis; all of his previous films have been comedies and, although there is plenty of humour in *An American Werewolf in London*, it is primarily a horror film. That at least is how Landis sees it. But it was this problem of definition that bedevilled the project for so long. None of the studio executives whom Landis approached could make up his mind what heading the film should be classified under. In a profession obsessed with being able to stick convenient labels on everything, this was a major drawback. Landis, however, was unbowed in his determination to make the film and felt, with some justification in view of his past record, that he had got a nose for a winner. "It was revenge that kept me going", he admits cheerfully. "I wanted to get my own back on all those people who said it would never work".

Landis had the idea for the film when he was working in Yugoslavia as a stuntman on *Kelly's Heroes*. "I was driving along one day when I saw this group of peasants conducting a funeral service. It turned out that the dead man had been a rapist and they were burying him at a crossroads in an unmarked grave so that his body wouldn't rise and cause any more havoc. The week before the United States had put a man on the moon and it seemed incredible to me that these people still believed in zombies.

"I thought it would be fun to take a ridiculous premise and treat it in an absolutely straightforward and realistic manner. I'd always been very fond of horror movies but I wanted to try and do something that would be both funny and frightening. There's always nervous laughter in a horror film but I didn't see why there shouldn't be real belly-laughs mixed in with the scary bits.

"The next thing to do was to choose my monster. In the end I opted for werewolves because the myths of lycanthropy, the phenomenon of a man turning into a beast, crops up in every single country and culture. It's the only supernatural beast that's truly international. The film was set in England because it's the bastion of gothic horror and that was the kind of atmosphere I was after.

"I started out being very sceptical about the whole idea of lycanthropy but, although I'm not a "firm believer", I wouldn't dismiss it out of hand any more. Of course, a lot of what we think are legends from the dim and distant past were actually dreamed up by Hollywood scriptwriters. It's common knowledge that one of the ways of killing a vampire is by shooting him with silver bullets. But that only came about because Curt Siodmak, who happened to be working on a *Dracula* script, was listening to *The Lone Ranger* on the radio and reckoned that, if silver bullets were good enough for the Lone Ranger, they were probably good enough for Dracula as well.

"In one sense I love the way that movies have influenced our folklore to such an extent, but it does make it rather tricky to sort out fact from fiction, especially for someone like me who was virtually educated in the cinema."

Indeed Landis made up his mind when he was eight that he wanted to be a film director after his mother had taken him to see *The Seven Voyages of Sinbad*. When he left school he became a messenger boy for 20th Century Fox and since then he has never really looked back. One of the secrets of his success must be the seemingly boundless enthusiasm he brings to the job. There is also a broad manic streak in his character which shows clearly in his work. Although Landis is wary of any attempt to analyze his films, he will admit that narrow-mindedness is always one of his prime targets. So too is the automobile which he seems to take great pleasure in smashing up on screen. A hefty portion of the budget for *The Blues Brothers* must have gone towards the numerous cars that were summarily destroyed and the climax of *An American Werewolf in London* takes place amid an enormous pile-up in Piccadilly Circus.

"I suppose it's a reaction against the way the car has taken over our lives. After all we've covered a good deal of the earth's surface with strips of tarmac to drive the damn things on and, in America especially, they've become almost the biggest status symbol of them all. But I don't want to take myself or my films too seriously. They're basically entertainment and my main concern is in giving people a good time".

Now that he is no longer typecast as a comedy director Landis is eager to try his hand at all manner of subjects. His next film will be a contemporary drama set in Los Angeles and after that he is due to go on to the remake of *Dick Tracy*. He has also got a long-cherished ambition to make a film of Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee at the Court of King Arthur*. Landis is a great admirer of Twain, and he certainly shares his relish for throwing rocks at the American establishment. The British establishment, however, seems to be more to his liking, and *An American Werewolf in London* closes with a title card congratulating the Prince and Princess of Wales on their marriage. "I thought it would be appropriate since I was over here making the film when the engagement was announced and I got caught up in all the excitement. I like to think of it as the ultimate wedding souvenir".

John Preston



First choose your monster . . . John Landis among the timber wolves

Opera news

Serious loss to Italy

Rome

The French Government's decision to offer the post of general administrator of the Paris Opéra from 1983 to Massimo Bogianckino revives fears that Italy is losing too many of the leading figures in its music to other countries.

Bogianckino is undoubtedly the most gifted organizer at the moment in Italy's operatic life. He plans to move from Florence, where he is director of the Teatro Comunale, to Paris in August and his departure will, in the words of one leading critic here, "inevitably leave a touch of bitterness in the heart of the Italian theatre." There is ample reason to suppose so. The list of voluntary semi-exiles is disconcerting. Riccardo Muti, Claudio Abbado and Carlo-Maria Giulini still conduct here but are no longer based in Italy. The measure of Bogianckino's ability can be judged by his success in bringing both Muti and Giulini regularly to Florence to make their very different contributions to the Maggio Musicale.

Bogianckino has said that he hopes that Muti will continue to open the Maggio Musicale even after he himself has moved to Paris. The work Bogianckino has done in Florence and before that at La Scala comes first to mind because that is more recent. The real measure of his capacity however was the period between 1963 and 1968 when he was artistic director of the Rome Opera.

His artistic achievement in itself was high. Essentially he transformed the ailing opera house into a genuine centre of the city's cultural life. That may simply sound a conventional acknowledgement of his success but it is far more, considering the difficulties of working in Rome which, because of the nature of the city, are enormous.

Bogianckino drew heavily on artists living in or near Rome at that time. He brought in Giorgio de Chirico for instance to design Rossini's *Otello* and Manzu for Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex*. Eduardo de Filippo joined Giulini in staging *The Barber of Seville*. Lorin Maazel was here then and conducted for him; Serafin conducted his last performance in the opera house.

The point in reviving that period in Bogianckino's career is simply to show that his skill in refurbishing forgotten standards, or introducing new ones, remains his strength and was most dramatically revealed in the artistically enervating atmosphere of Rome.

The attraction of Paris is clear. If the advent of Mitterand means something in cultural terms it must be renewal and the search for the highest talents able to provide a new intellectual vitality. Bogianckino has studied in Paris and is at home in French cultural life. When his ambition was still to be a pianist, he studied in France under Cortot.

The Italian public must share that Blake-like "touch of bitterness in the heart" at the thought that the opportunity to use a powerful gift for renewal has to be sought outside Italy. Not least among Bogianckino's achievements is that he is comfortably able to combine successes on the operatic stage with a highly progressive view of life.

Peter Nichols

Welsh 'Fidelio' in London

Welsh National Opera are bringing four works, including their controversial production of *Fidelio*, to London next April for their third annual London festival sponsored by Amoco, at the Dominion Theatre.

On April 5 and 10 they present Verdi's *La forza del destino* in a new production by Joachim Herz, conducted by Richard Armstrong. The cast includes Elizabeth Vaughan, Claire Powell, Moises Parker and Norman Phillips.

Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* will be performed on April 6. The production, which opens in Cardiff on February 23, will be staged by Rudolph Noelte and conducted by the Russian Mark Ermler. This is the first time that the work of Rudolph Noelte, one of West Germany's leading theatre directors, will have been seen in Britain. The opera will be sung in an English translation by Tony Harrison and the cast is led by Helen Field, Warren Ellsworth and Derek Hammond Stroud.

Bellini's *I puritani* will be sung in Italian on April 7, the first staging in London of the opera since the Covent Garden production in 1964. The new production, opening in Cardiff on March 10, is by Andrei Serban. It is conducted by Julian Smith, and the cast includes Suzanne Murphy and Dennis O'Neal.

The fourth opera to be performed, on April 8, is Beethoven's *Fidelio* in Harry Kupfer's production which opened in September and was shown last month on BBC2. Richard Armstrong conducts the performance with Anne Evans as Leonora and Dennis Bailey as Florestan.

Christopher Warman

Theatre



Donald Cooper

Alan Howard: temperamental range

Richard II

Aldwych

At its first appearance in Stratford a year ago, I described Terry Hands's production as a compressed epic; with the added definition it has gained since then, qualification is no longer needed.

The show is an epic masterpiece, taking the spectator on a journey from the playing-card pageantry of the medieval world to the new age of dark corners and three-dimensional guilt. Alan Howard's Richard, a sun king who needs to be viewed through smoked glass, is followed by David Suchet's Bolingbroke, a careworn figure with steel-rimmed glasses in a black-clad candle-lit court.

The descent from the security of medieval kingship to the shaky suceeding age is the main gesture here as it was at Stratford. What gives the production its particular stamp is its success in releasing *Richard II* from the category of lyric tragedy, a process to which the lead performances contribute no less than the production detail.

Starting at the top, Mr Howard manages to dispatch this aria-packed role with barely an echo of the usual honeyed melancholy. What he does offer is an enormous temperamental range, broadly subdivided into private and public behaviour.

Let me offer a typical contrast between the two. In the opening scene, he delivers his opinion on the two challengers straight out to the house; then shuts his eyes on us. The King has briefly taken us into his confidence, and now the audience is at an end. Set that against his row with the dying Gaunt (Raymond Westwell). Mr Howard seems to explode in ungovernable fury, his voice cracking round the old man like a bullwhip; then, without a pause, he turns to his private group of cronies, all smiles, for their applause at his performance. Until we find him, mortified into self-knowledge in the Pomfret cell, he is invariably surrounded by an audience, with whom he takes the king-actor metaphor to the limit, with gags, mimicry, word games and glamorous self-display. He is a prankster from the start; and one of the most fascinating aspects of the reading is that it shows a sarcastic bully turning into a subtle ironist.

The development of Mr Suchet's Bolingbroke, in its austere way, is equally spectacular, and no less the revelation of an actor-diplomat, who knows how to play the irreproachable subject and when to turn brutally decisive; only overplaying his hand in the abdication scene where Richard gets the better of him, loading him with the regalia like a hatstand and pushing him into the throne, so as to turn his triumph into a foolish humiliation.

Where the production has grown most is in its treatment of the York family, and especially their son Aumerle. Lyricism always did have trouble in digesting the Yorks, and this time they are given their head in such a way that tragedy instantly collapses in their down-to-earth presence. As the news of the Duchess's death is pronounced, York (Tony Church) is testily struggling to get a ring off, and the conspiracy crisis is entirely undermined by a farcical squabble over his boots. Aumerle (Jonathan Hyde) emerges as never before as Richard's Judas, an obsequious hanger-on from the first scene, doing a quick *volte-face* when Bolingbroke comes to power, and then reminding Bolingbroke — in the heavily emphasized line, "loyal father of a treacherous son"—of his own murky record. After which the final scene, played as a nightmare walk down Farrah's ramp, despatching enemies to the block on the way and finally arriving at the spectre of Richard's corpse, follows with inexorably fatal logic.

Irving Wardle

Opera review

Brecht weakened

The Seven Deadly Sins/Les Mamelles de Tiresias

Coliseum

Having divorced their partners in earlier double bills, both highly unsuitable matches, it may be that *The Seven Deadly Sins* and *Les Mamelles de Tiresias* will make a better go of it in association with each other. That they have a certain amount in common is evident, but whether it is enough to sustain a short evening, prolonged only by the inordiate length of the interval between them, remains to be seen. What must be regretted is that the almost clinical presentation of Brecht and Weill's parable as a blunt case-history has been weakened this time round in the English National Opera repertory. Partly this is due to the dancing Anna (Jenny Weston) having choreography which lacks the sharply pointed character of Richard Alston's original, though it follows similar outlines, and partly to the incarnation of the singing Anna in the adenoidal tones of Marti Webb, who on Tuesday sang every number in the same vocally featureless manner.

Otherwise Lionel Friend's conducting keeps the music moving resolutely rather than incisively through what always seems to me a muddle-headed allegory. The male voice family quartet, growing rich on their daughter's sellout to life, was better than before in such passages as the gluttony scene, and Dennis Wicks relished his drag role as the formidable "mother" among them. I am glad that Hugh Halliday, as producer in charge as well as choreographer, kept the vivid tableau of the worn-out dancing Anna prostrate in mute accusation at the final curtain.

Les Mamelles de Tiresias, retaining more propriety in its French title for an English-language performance than do most of its characters, might almost be a parody of Brecht, were it not for the fact that the play by Apollinaire from which it is derived was written a generation earlier. And it is worth noting that it was in his introduction to that play that the author coined the word "surrealism" which precisely defines the moralizing musical comedy that Poulenc made of it.

Its humour is of the kind that would have been called "gallic" in the days before de Gaulle, though fortunately the wit and irony of Poulenc's invention preserves it in a kind of musical aspic. John Copley's production revived by David Ritch injects an anglicized flavour of pantomime farce. Happily there are still Robin Don's designs, their assortment of images making ingenious references to various of Apollinaire's contemporaries, Picasso, Chirico and Dufy not least among them.

Alan Opie sang his theatre director's introduction in front of the drop curtain with due weight of purpose, and Marilyn Hill Smith is an admirable new Therese, with the requisite edge and sparkle in her singing for a role moulded entirely on paradox. Emile Belcourt is again the put-upon husband who becomes the businesslike childbearer of the second act, sharing assured vocal timing with Eric Shilling's prototype Clouzot in the local gendarmerie. Hazel Vivienne conducted with lightness and zest.

Noël Goodwin

Paperbacks

To read is to argue

Crowds and Power, by Elias Canetti *(Penguin, £2.95)*

If you like Sir Thomas Browne's *Urn Burial* or Sir James Frazer's *The Golden Bough*, then you will like Canetti's erudite musings on the way politics and individuals and masses interact — often to produce violence and terror. That is his theme; but, like Browne or Frazer, he proceeds by amassing examples, and these are what persuade and give the book its attraction.

He begins with an acute account of how crowds "work": how individuals overcome their usual fear of being pushed about, and enjoy their immersion in a lack of individual responsibility. But by the time we reach the end, more than 500 pages later, Canetti fades us out on an "epilogue", rather than a conclusion.

This does not matter. Indeed, it is a book which I at least tend to read like a magazine — not so much in its modern sense as in its original one, of a storehouse. I dip into learned expositions of how an Indian medieval proto-Hitler ruled (his courtiers approached the palace past heaps of rotting corpses). Or I suddenly see how right it is to take the conductor of a symphony orchestra as the embodiment of a *Führer*.

But then I wonder how the *standing* position of the all-powerful conductor fits in with Canetti's exposition, in another chapter, of the all-powerful throne-like imagery of *sitting*, while others stand. To read Canetti is to argue with him.

Canetti's life makes him sound like someone invented by Borges (or, in this case, the Nobel prize committee, who have just awarded him the literature accolade for 1981). He has lived in more countries, it seems, than he has written books; and, born in Bulgaria of Spanish-Jewish parents, he began life speaking medieval Spanish. Certainly he shares Borges's love of learning, and his love of hiding generalization behind detailed particularity. Few of the best sociologists have been paid-up academics, specifically working in that discipline. Canetti rubs in the point again.

Penguin have rushed out this reprint with commendable speed because of the Nobel Prize. (Canetti's novel, *Auto da Fé*, is still in print by Picador). It is relevant to note that one of his more thought-provoking passages is on inflation and on the word *million*. But for hyper-inflation in Weimar Germany, which meant that "a million" became something ordinary, everyday, even valueless, Canetti thinks that even the Nazis would not have thought so amorally about the destruction of millions of Slavs or Jews. To devalue words is also, Orwellianly, to devalue lives.

The 1973 original Penguin on my shelves cost 60p. This costs nearly five times as much. Not Weimar; but not a world of stable values, either.

Paul Barker

Violence

Rough Justice, the extraordinary truth about Charles Richardson and his gang, by Robert Parker (Fontana £1.95)

The career of Charles Richardson is put into a nutshell by one of his associates recalling one of the beatings which the gang administered to some victims. "It was just one of those things", he said simply. "They took a liberty. We got the hump. They got a whack."

The elements of the story are all there: the private language and code of the underworld, the absence of repentance, and the casual acceptance of savage violence. Fifteen years after the Richardson empire was at its height, the truth does not turn out to be all that extraordinary and looks much the same as it did during their lurid trial.

Not precisely the same, however. The former *Times* journalist Robert Parker embarked on this story by interviewing Richardson when he was on the run from the prison system which has now reclaimed him; Richardson wanted to show that he had been framed. Parker has unearthed new twists to the story — Richardson burgled anti-apartheid organizations for the South African Bureau of State Security — and has clarified that not every word of evidence at the trial may have been the perfect truth. But he is unequivocal: "In the end, justice was done."

Richardson emerges from this dense and complex narrative as a strange combination of street-smart and naive. Like other torturers before him, he was practising the extreme form of trying to bend the world to fit his own version of reality. His psychological motives are not always described with the precision and elegance that they might be: "Charlie's fury intensified over the weekend. That dreadful paranoid force was whirring wildly inside some unfathomable part of his being."

He was probably not much more brutal than a handful of villains operating in east and south London at the time, and certainly no more so than the Kray brothers. He rivals the Krays for notoriety because his ambitions were grandiose and came down with a correspondingly large crash. They were pursued with *chutzpah*. This is Richardson calling the estranged husband of his current girlfriend: "Gordy, Jean and I are friends. Any aggravation to you?..."

"No ways, Charlie..."

"I just thought I would ask out of courtesy."

But the world of almost childlike fantasy kept in place by the threat of violence is ultimately squalid and intimate. For all the breathless description of international finance, models and fast cars, the lingering image is of a naked and battered man being thrown his own underpants to mop up his own blood.

George Brock

South Africa: promises without progress

Johannesburg.
The South African Prime Minister, Mr Pieter Botha, sits down today with the country's business leaders for a post-mortem on the hopes of the past two years.

The Cape Town meeting will be a tense and gloomy session. The two sides last met at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, in November 1979, when their shared optimism about reform was at its height. English-speaking businessmen, led by Mr Harry Oppenheimer of the giant Anglo-American Corporation, joined hands with the rising generation of Afrikaner industrialists to pledge support for Botha's loosening of white supremacy against the entrenched resistance of the ruling National Party, the white civil service and the working class.

That year Mr Botha had marked his succession of the tired and discredited Mr John Vorster with a series of speeches which convinced many people at home and abroad that he was bent on far-reaching reform of the apartheid system. He told bemused Afrikaners that they must "adapt or die", that apartheid was a "recipe for permanent conflict" and that reform was "the only alternative to revolution". Today, Mr Botha will face charges that he has retreated from his earlier promises, made by men who are confused about government policy and the growing militancy of the black labour force.

The reformist rhetoric of Mr Botha and his *Verligte* (Liberal) lieutenants, it is now clear, always promised a great deal more than they were able, or probably ever intended, to deliver. The sanctity of the structural core of "grand apartheid" — the Balkanization of South Africa into semi-independent black tribal homelands in and around a vast white heartland where blacks would be allowed entry only to satisfy the needs of the white economy — was never in question.

Their aim was rather to shore up this creaking edifice by accommodating some pressing demographic and economic facts of life. Among these are that by the year 2,020 the 4.5 million whites will have risen only to 5.3 million, and will have dropped from 16 per cent to 11 per cent of the total population. Blacks will number 37 million, against 20 million today, rising from 72 per cent to 78 per cent of the total, and more than 80 per cent will be under the age of 25.

It has been calculated that an average economic growth rate of 5 per cent a year, which would not be especially high by historic South African standards, would generate a demand for six million skilled workers by the end of the century, of which the whites would be able to provide no more than a third. To the *Verligtes* this meant that skilled jobs had to be opened to blacks and much more money spent on black education and training.

The corollary, it was argued, of ceasing to treat blacks as an almost inexhaustible reservoir of cheap, barely-literate labour was that they had also to be given a stake in the future of South Africa's political and economic system. Otherwise the Government would be faced with an estranged, and expanding, skilled black workforce, commanding a strategic position in the economy and a growing ability to disrupt the political and social order through strikes, consumer boycotts and industrial sabotage.

The plan for reform that began to emerge still reflected traditional Verwoerdian precepts in seeing the largely rural tribal homelands as the chief answer to black political aspirations. It did not dispute that the influx of blacks to the towns had to be strictly controlled, but accepted that a large proportion of the black population would have to be accommodated as a permanent presence in "white" areas.

Black urbanization, it was said, would be controlled only by the availability of jobs and housing. The quality of life for urban blacks and their families would be improved, they would be permitted to set up businesses, to take out 99-year-leases on their houses, and to move more easily from one job to another, petty "hurtful" discrimination in use of public amenities would cease, and black trade union rights would be recognized.

By these means, it was hoped, a black middle class and labour aristocracy would gradually emerge with a vested interest in political and economic stability. Soweto it was suggested, might become a self-governing black city state, possibly with the right at some point in the future to send representatives to a central government. At the same time South Africa's 800,000 Indians and 2.5 million mixed-race coloureds were to be drawn into sharing some sort of parliamentary structure with the whites.

For its part, big business, riding a free enterprise boom stimulated by the removal of government controls, would help finance these reforms and channel investment into regional development aimed at alleviating the poverty of the homelands and reducing the flow of Africans to the cities. Encouraged by this reformist climate, many people undoubtedly read much more into the Government's intentions than they ever contained.

Many Liberals, for example, pin their hopes on the controversial figure of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, leader of the Kwazulu Homeland, who is hated alike by white hardliners and black militants in the African National Congress for his willingness to work for reform through apartheid institutions while denouncing apartheid as a system. A commission set up by Chief Buthelezi is expected in the next few weeks to recommend the merger of Kwazulu with the white-run province of Natal in a multi-racial regional federation enjoying devolved powers.

Such schemes might not have seemed Utopian two years ago, but now the reform impetus is running into the sand. The only real movement has been in the recognition of black trade unions, partial ending of job reservation, and limited improvements in the lot of urban Africans. Many people believe the stuffing began to go out of Mr Botha's reforming zeal after the collapse of the "internal settlement" in Zimbabwe and the victory of Mr Mugabe.

That strengthened the white bitter-enders in South Africa in their rejection of the assumption implicit in much liberal argument that timely concessions will persuade blacks to accept a "half-way house" short of undiluted majority rule. For them it is a case not of "adapt or die" but "adapt and die more quickly". Better, they say, to try to hold the line rigidly where it is. At the same time, blacks, coloureds and Indians have all so far spurned the Government's cautious overtures.

The second significant event was Mr Botha's decision to call a general election two years early last April, presumably hoping for a reinforced mandate for reform. The Liberal PFP gained seats, indicating the reformist enthusiasm of English-speaking South Africans, but the near-fascist Herstigte Nasionaly Party also quintupled its vote (though without winning a single seat, owing to the vagaries of the constituency system.) This greatly unnerved the Government by raising the old bogey of a split in Afrikaner ranks.

A charitable view is that Mr Botha is playing for time on the internal reforms while he gets the white hardliners at his back to swallow the bitter pill of the loss of Namibia (South West Africa). That could be read into some temporizing remarks he made at last week's congress of the Transvaal National Party where he was challenged to come out into the open on his future intentions by its powerful, ultra-Conservative leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht. But his audience today will need some persuading that the reforms are still on course.

Michael Hornsby

South African children near Capetown. High hopes for reform now seem to have disappeared along with their shanty town home, now destroyed by police.

Ronald Butt

Sir Keith takes a blind swipe

In politics as in more fundamental matters, it is sometimes a good idea to go in search of first principles. At a moment when the Government is on the brink of deciding to cut drastically its support for the maintenance of university students, which will add to the financial anxieties of the universities, as well as of the students themselves, it is not a bad idea to ask the simple question: what moral obligation does the state have to support students who are accepted for university.

The state has accepted an open-ended commitment to pay the tuition fees of all students who secure a university place, the universities having the unfettered right to determine whom they will offer university places to.

Further, the state (through the local authorities) also pays a basic maintenance grant to all such students, irrespective of parents' means, suplemented by additional grants made after a very close assessment of parents incomes. This means-tested element of the grant rises to a maximum which is the notional amount a student is deemed to need to live at university, calculated according to the cost of living in the area, and whether he does or does not live at home.

If the notional maximum is £1,800 and a total grant is made of £1,000, the student's parents are expected to make up the balance, thus we come upon the first curious feature of the arrangement, which is that a parent who may have financial problems of which the means-testing criteria take no account, finds himself morally obliged to pay a large annual sum to maintain another adult who, being usually aged 18 or above, can vote or marry, and over whom the parent has no legal control, even the universities no longer standing *in loco parentis*. This obligation only ends when the student is 25.

In a not inconsiderable number of cases parents already refuse to pay all or some of the due amount, either because they cannot or will not. Quite a high proportion of students therefore live on means below the notional level which the state prescribes.

The Government, however, having already overshot its spending targets for the coming financial year is desperate for more economies to contain the level of public borrowing (and therefore inflation) and seeks retrenchment from every spending department. The Department of Education is quite sure that the schools can bear no more economies and the new Education Secretary, Sir Keith Joseph, has decided that further cuts must be at the expense of the universities.

His proposal is that the basic grant which comes to all students irrespective of parents' means should be ended, and that the means-tested element should be scaled down, with the parents' contribution substantially increased. This is the proposition, now with the Treasury, on which the Cabinet will eventually have to decide. It would have a great impact on students personally, and would be likely to lead to a significant decline in their number since there are bound to be cases where parents cannot or will not find the extra.

There are about 500,000 people in higher education in Britain and if we add the parents, it means that something approaching a million and a half could be directly affected by the changes. That is quite a lot of voters.

Yet on the other side of the argument, Britain runs a more generous system of student maintenance than almost anywhere else in the world. If it is a serious question what financial obligation parents should have for children of voting age, it is also a serious question how far the majority of toiling taxpayers should be expected to provide for the living standards of students who can hope for a higher standard of living eventually than most of those who indirectly support them.

Of course, we have a social obligation to educate at university the ablest young people who lack financial means, but abroad they are generally dealt with through competitive scholarships, in much the same way as they were once catered for by county and state scholarships here. Now the commitment is to sustain any student for whom universities, with their vested interest in their own growth, can find a place.

Sir Keith Joseph is an intellectual. His ruling idea is that in a beneficent world, the engine of human progress would be the market principle of self-interest, self-help and money-making which would create the wealth needed to make available the funds for the charitable support of those in genuine need of help. It is a radical approach which he seldom practises as fervently as he preaches it.

A year ago, Dr Rhodes Boyson, with the approval of the then Education Secretary, Mr Mark Carlisle, produced a scheme which, after providing for a basic grant, would have made up the balance of students' maintenance by government backed loans. (The state would still have paid for all tuition.) There was nothing barbaric about it. It was modelled on the Swedish system. If it can be argued that such loans start the student off with a debt, it can be replied that a debt, like a mortgage, is nowadays quickly diminished by inflation.

More pertinent is the fact that a loan system would still enable students determined to go to university to borrow and do so. They would not be dependent on the goodwill of state or parents, which is too easily withdrawn at short notice or witheld altogether.

It would be better to have recourse to a loan than to be dependent on a system to which Sir Keith Joseph can take an axe, depriving many students of the chance to go to university at all.

The Government risks alienating many of its own supporters (including those in the articulate university lobby which is demonstrating against the cuts generally at Westminster next week) if it accepts Sir Keith's plan.

Once again he had shown his lack of political imagination and a characteristic willingness to accept bureacratic solutions. The Treasury does not like the loans system because, although in the long run, it would save money, it would cost more immediately.

Instead of attempting a radical reappraisal of a system which carries an open-ended commitment the nation can no longer afford, and which is not even very just, Sir Keith proposes an expedient which will look mean-minded and make enemies the Government cannot afford. We should be thinking much more fundamentally about how we view the future of universities, their courses and their finance. This kind of expedient can only do damage. It is not too late for the Cabinet to instruct Sir Keith to think again.

Should PMT be a woman's all-purpose excuse?

Two women who killed or threatened to kill have this week walked free from British courts after pleading that they acted "out of character" because of pre-menstrual tension.

The cases of Miss Sandie Smith and Mrs Christine English are set to cause protracted argument among doctors and lawyers, not to mention feminists and lay-people of both sexes. Beyond the medical and legal technicalities lies the fundamental question: can a woman's natural monthly cycle be commonly accepted as diminishing her responsibility for crimes from traffic offences to murder?

The courts have been faced for some years by women defendants who have explained or excused their crimes by reference to premenstual tension. But judges have not yet developed a coherent or uniform response.

The issue has most often been raised in cases of shoplifting, where the accused woman has attributed uncharacteristic absent-mindedness to PMT. But this week's cases have brought it to the fore as a factor in much graver criminal charges.

Mrs English was conditionally discharged from Norwich Crown Court on Tuesday after she had admitted killing her lover by running him down in her car. Her plea of guilty of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility was accepted after she had explained that they had had a row when her lover said he had arranged to meet another woman. She followed him in her car and drove it at him, stepping on the accelerator. Mr Justice Purchas said he was satisfied she had committed the offence in "wholly exceptional circumstances".

On Monday Miss Smith, a 29-year-old barmaid, was put on probation for threatening to kill a policeman while carrying a knife. Her case was doubly interesting because she was already on probation for stabbing to death another barmaid, again during a period of pre-menstrual tension. Miss Smith had nearly 30 previous convictions for offences ranging from arson and assault to throwing bricks through windows, and had "dozens of times" tried to take her own life — again, all the incidents coinciding with her pre-menstrual tension.

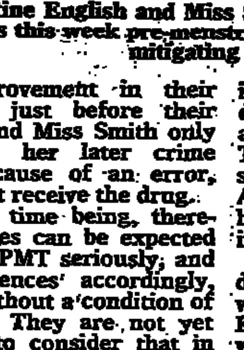
"My days of violence were caused by an illness which made my life hell — and hell for a lot of other innocent people", she said in court. Her defence counsel said that, without daily injections of a hormone drug, progesterone, Miss Smith "became a raging animal each month". The Recorder of London, Mr James Miskin, QC, made a new probation order after hearing that the drug normally kept her "sane and benign".

Both judges accepted that the two women — on two separate occasions, in the case of Miss Smith — committed their offences under 'exceptional conditions' caused by PMT, which did not warrant imprisonment. But the courts have not gone as far as treating PMT as a defence in the sense that the defendant did not know what she was doing, and therefore ought to be acquitted altogether. They have accepted PMT only as an extenuating factor.

In its extreme form, however, it appears that PMT can affect a woman so much that she is not responsible for her actions at all, and would not realize she was doing wrong. This raises far wider legal questions on the nature of criminal intent, which the courts will undoubtedly be faced with soon.

It is not, however, thought that the two cases this week, and Miss Smith's last year, will open the floodgates to women defendants claiming PMT as a reason for their crimes. The medical evidence would have to be convincing that the condition was strong enough to have resulted in reducing her reponsibility for her actions. Many women, of course, suffer some degree of PMT and are less than sweetness and light for a day or two.

Miss Smith, both this week and last year, was placed on probation on condition that she took injections of the drug progesterone. A similar order was also made last year on a ballet student convicted of attempted arson.

Mrs Christine English and Miss Sandie Smith — in both their court cases this week pre-menstrual tension was accepted as a mitigating factor.

Both women showed significant improvement in their condition just before their periods, and Miss Smith only committed her later crime when, because of an error, she did not receive the drug.

For the time being, therefore, judges can be expected to regard PMT seriously, and pass sentences accordingly, with or without a condition of treatment. They are not yet prepared to consider that in every case PMT should completely negate criminal intent, thus resulting in acquittal.

Despite 50 years research the basic facts about premenstrual tension are still disputed, its symptoms remain controversial and there is no agreement on treatment. Some doctors give progesterone, others give diuretic drugs to increase urine flow, others suppress the cycle by continuous treatment with oral contraceptives.

PMT was first recognized by an American physician named R. T. Frank, who described women in the days just before menstruation developing "a condition of indescribable tension, and a desire to find relief by foolish actions difficult to restrain." This was accompanied by swelling of the face and feet. All the symptoms were relieved when menstrual bleeding began.

Here in Britain the syndrome is closely associated with the name of Dr Katharina Dalton, a defence witness in the English case this week who first published (with the endocrinologist Dr Raymond Greene) a paper describing the syndrome in detail as long ago as 1953. She believes that around four out of every 10 women suffer distressing symptoms in the last week of their menstrual cycle, and that these include mental as well as physical disturbances. The most striking physical feature, she says, is accumulation of water in the body.

The underlying cause is said to be an imbalance between the hormones oestradiol and progesterone, whose fluctuations determine the normal menstrual cycle.

Treatment to correct the deficiency of progesterone will, Dr Dalton claims, almost invariably prevent the symptoms occurring.

Dr Dalton, who believes that some women become seriously mentally disturbed during the premenstrual period and also sometimes during menstruation, has found that a high proportion of women prisoners in Holloway Prison committed their offences at or around their period of maximum premenstrual stress.

Despite as yet inadequate research, the theory sounds reasonable and appears to have convinced the courts on several occasions. Recent research has, however, thrown doubt on the whole concept of the premenstrual syndrome as it appears in most standard text books.

Firstly, new techniques have allowed doctors to measure the amounts of hormone in the blood with far greater accuracy. And these tests have failed to show any consistent lack of progesterone in the blood of women with premenstrual symptoms.

Nevertheless, fluctuations in water, sodium and potassium are associated with mental changes in several other disorders, so to that extent the emotional changes of premenstrual tension may be said to be based on sound biochemical evidence.

In every mental disorder, however, the biochemical changes in the brain are only one aspect: the personality and external events are equally important.

Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Dr Tony Smith
Medical Correspondent

How Arab money relieved a Heseltine headache

Recent suggestions that Arab influence on the English property market is declining appear to have been premature. I am told that Heveningham Hall in Suffolk, one of the nation's finest Georgian mansions, has been sold to Abdhul al-Ghazzi, a bachelor in his 30s, who is better known in Park Lane than the wilds of East Anglia. But his purchase of the hall, for £726,000, relieves Environment Secretary Michael Heseltine of a headache he has nursed for nearly two years.

Heveningham, owned by the Vanneck family for two centuries, was reluctantly bought by the Treasury-financed National Heritage Memorial Fund for £300,000 in 1970. Since the end of last year it has been closed to visitors after the agreement by the National Trust to manage it on behalf of the Department of the Environment came to an end. Meanwhile the Treasury wants its money back and Heseltine has insisted the 24-bedroom hall, built by Sir Robert Taylor in the English Palladian style, be reopened to the public.

The new owner has agreed to allow public access to the hall on at least 30 days a year and is to rehabilitate the building. He will also display furniture designed for the hall by James Wyatt in the 1780s — a condition of the sale. Finally, the gardens laid down by Capability Brown in 500 acres of parkland, will be restored.

Social conscience

After months of agonizing over her future role in life Bianca Jagger appears to be on the verge of forsaking the social whirlpool of New York in order to devote herself full-time to the Third World.

The Nicaraguan-born former wife of Mick Jagger (they were divorced two years ago) is hoping to lead a government-level delegation to the Honduras borders to see refugee camps where she claims displaced Salvadoreans are kept like prisoners in fear of their lives.

Sheltering from the drizzle in a Fifth Avenue doorway, Bianca, 34, told my observer in New York: "People are just not aware of what is going on in these places. Women and children are suffering every day."

Bianca, who studied political science in France, says she is considering spending more time in her native Nicaragua. It was as a result of the internecine strife there that her social conscience was awoken two years ago.

The mysterious, raven-haired daughter of a Nicaraguan businessman has not entirely cast aside her former life however. She added that she is looking forward to seeing the Rolling Stones Concert at Madison Square Garden tomorrow.

THE TIMES DIARY

In the wake, or should I say trail, of our recent tale about "super-snail", the mollusc that suddenly came to life after more than three years hibernating as a seaside ornament on the bedroom dressing table of a retired Nottinghamshire miner — I have some new — even more startling revelations.

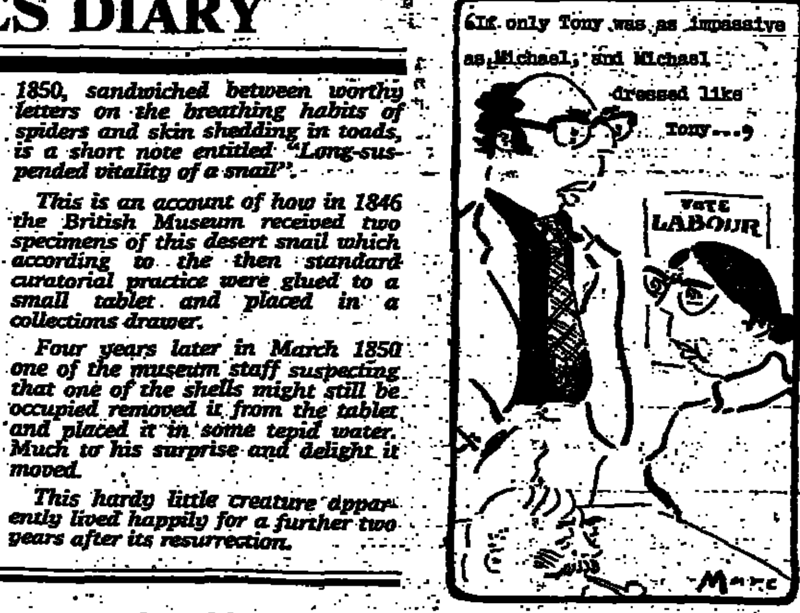
Dr Peter Mordan, senior scientific officer in the zoological department of the British Museum and an expert on non-marine molluscs (land and fresh water snails), tells me of the even more extraordinary achievement of a formidable Egyptian snail, Eremina desertorum.

Apparently in the Annals and Magazine of Natural History *of 1850, sandwiched between worthy letters on the breathing habits of spiders and skin shedding in toads, is a short note entitled "Long-suspended vitality of a snail".*

This is an account of how in 1846 the British Museum received two specimens of this desert snail which according to the then standard curatorial practice were glued to a small tablet and placed in a collections drawer.

Four years later in March 1850 one of the museum staff suspecting that one of the shells might still be occupied removed it from the tablet and placed it in some tepid water. Much to his surprise and delight it moved.

This hardy little creature apparently lived happily for a further two years after its resurrection.



Robbins redefined

Some consternation yesterday when the combined ranks of Government ministers (Sir Keith Joseph, Mr William Waldegrave), Department of Education and Science officials (Sir James Hamilton, permanent secretary and others) and a clutch of MPs of various hues (the Commons Select Committee on Education) could not remember what the Robbins principle was.

Robbins is, of course, to higher education what Bevan was to the Welfare State. His principle is that courses of higher education should be available for all those who are qualified by ability and attainment to pursue them. And this has been the guiding force behind the expansion of higher education.

So when the new secretary of state for education was asked by the select committee whether the Government's education cuts meant that Robbins was dead (they urging him to say it, he desperately trying not to). Sir Keith Joseph (who served in the Government which originally welcomed the Robbins report) found himself in the embarassing position of not being able to recall its terms precisely. His nudging of officials was to no purpose, nor did the MPs help and after some pedantic debate about phraseology which was certainly not Robbins, Sir Keith had to say he found the principle vague.

Eventually Labour MP Christopher Price, select committee chairman found the wording in an earlier report published by the committee and the Minister announced that though not dead Robbins was now redefined — the precise nature of that redefinition being left to another session.

Matched

Princess Mary Obolensky, daughter of the Russian émigré Prince Alexis, has married Antony Underwood at St James Church, Piccadilly during a service highlighted by Sir John Mills's reading of the lesson. The church was packed with habitués of the St James Club, exclusive haunt of the theatrical world, of which Underwood is general manager and Princess Mary a member of the executive committee, together with Sir John, Margaret Duchess of Argyle, Michael Caine, Liza Minnelli, Roger Moore and Gregory Peck.

The Princess, 35, once a friend of Rex Harrison, is renowned for her efficient organization of backgammon tournaments in Monte Carlo. But much of the conversation at the reception reflected the relief of her friends that Princess Mary has found not only the man of her dreams but a man of her height. The two, who met a year ago at the launch of the club, are over 6ft tall.

Michael Horsnell



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THE TIGER'S SMILE

The Opposition's decision to mobilize Mr Benn's oratorical guns during Tuesday's North Sea oil debate was always a gamble. His sights and his definition of the enemy are rarely in line with those of his senior colleagues. Not surprisingly and not for the first time he wreaked more damage upon his own side than upon the Government benches opposite.

His personal commitment to re-nationalize without compensation was directly contrary to the position agreed in Shadow Cabinet and left Labour's official spokesman, Mr Merlyn Rees, who apparently cleared his own speech with Mr Benn, intolerably embarrassed. It was also technically contrary to Party policy as determined by overwhelming vote at this year's Brighton Conference.

Remembering that Mr Benn's left wing friends operate a hit list of Labour MPs who should be punished for offending the sanctity of Conference decisions, his behaviour carries a whiff of humbug. However it should be stated in his defence that the Conference decision in question was even more ambiguous than usual: on a long composite motion the delegates' observations were apparently more to do with proposals for the financial sector than with North Sea oil.

What is still unquestionable is that Mr Benn, when challenged from the Government bench, told the Commons and the nation that his position was that of the Labour Party, with no qualifications for the various shades and ambiguities within its policy making process. In so doing he left his fellow spokesman looking ridiculous, his leader humiliated, and himself looking less than trustworthy to conduct an office of public responsibility.

Equally serious is the bald question of principle at issue in the North Sea. We have already expressed our doubts about the wisdom of privatization there, agreeing with some of Mr. Benn's better arguments. But there is no doubt about the Government's right — and duty — to sell at a fair price. Renationalization by a Labour Government without adequate compensation, let alone without any compensation at all, is simply wrong. It is the theft of legitimately held property. Mr Benn's proposal which may become unquestioned Labour policy once his Home Policy Committee has put its recommendations to the NEC and another Conference, amounts to such a theft. Among its victims would be millions of trade unionists who are members of pension funds. Even earlier sufferers will be the unemployed who are deprived of job opportunities as foreign investors are frightened away by these threats of confiscation.

But most immediately the problem rests with Mr Michael Foot. He personally promoted Mr Benn to his role in this debate. In answer to representations from moderate MPs about appeasement of the far Left, he has explained his strategy for taming Mr Benn by involving him in every aspect of the Party leadership. He has brought the tiger into the kitchen. Well, it has promptly eaten one of the cooks.

Mr Foot reacted firmly yesterday. He supported Mr Rees on the specific oil renationalization and then warned Mr Benn that without assurances of better behaviour he would not support him in the Shadow Cabinet elections. But on past evidence it is not clear what Mr Benn's assurances are worth or why Mr Foot should vote for him anyway. Unless Mr Foot recognizes his real enemies and more vigorously supports his true friends he himself may soon be on the tiger's menu.

HALF WAY TO THE LIVINGSTONE HOG

A few unnecessary rhetorical flourishes made the judgments of the Court of Appeal in the London fares case sound more political than they are. The court had three reasons for knocking down the new fares structure and the consequent supplementary rate. First it construed the governing clause of the Transport (London) Act of 1969, which gave the GLC its responsibility for the transport system, in such a way as to exclude the power to order a large general cut in fares leading to an equally large operating deficit. The council's statutory duty is to "promote the provision of integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities and services for Greater London". *Economic*, according to the court, means businesslike or run on business lines; it does not embrace the deliberate diminution of already inadequate revenue. Second, the court found irregularities in the procedures used by the GLC to cause the London Transport Executive to make the fare cuts. Third, the court found the council in breach of its "fiduciary duty" to the ratepayers. This concept, analogous to the duty of a trustee, is well established in case law. It was applied in similar circumstances in 1954 when Birmingham Corporation's scheme of free bus travel for certain sorts of elderly passengers was successfully challenged, and found illegal, in the absence of any clear statutory authority "on the ground that, to put the matter bluntly, it would amount to the making of a gift or present in money's worth to a particular section of the local community at the expense of the general body of ratepayers." What was there found to be unlawful was soon made lawful by legislation.

The only things a local council may do are the things it is expressly authorized to do. It is a creature of statute with no inherent powers of its own. Lord Denning's disparaging remarks about party manifestos in local government, though tactless, are correct. A manifesto pledge, even if dignified by the election result as a mandate, is a nullity if the councillors lack the statutory authority to put it into effect.

The question remains, and it is one the House of Lords will have to decide, has the Court of Appeal construed the 1969 Act too narrowly? Judges may not read *Hansard* but the rest of us may. When the Minister of Transport, then Mr Richard Marsh, moved the second reading of the Bill in the Commons he spoke of the role of the GLC in relation to the Transport Executive. He said the Bill gave the council the right to prescribe the policy lines to be followed and to take financial responsibility for its decisions.

> This is very important, because if the council wishes the executive to do something that will cause it to fall short of its financial targets, it will itself have to take financial responsibility for it. The council might wish, for example, the executive to run a series of services at a loss for social or planning reasons. It might wish to keep fares down at a time when costs are rising and there is no scope for economies. It is free to do so. But it has to bear the cost.

That does not go the whole Livingstone hog, but it points in his direction.

Another more general reason for placing a wider construction on the Act is that then in 1969, and even more today, the general subsidizing of fares was and is an orthodox policy option for urban transport systems. There is much to be said for it, provided it is arranged in a manner best calculated to stimulate use of public transport and a way that does not stimulate or perpetuate operational inefficiency. The object of the subsidy is not, as the courts quaintly suppose, philanthropy; it is to encourage optimum use of public transport, create the effective demand to justify expansion and improvement of services, and relieve the road congestion caused by preference for the alternative of one's own car. A modern public transport Act deserves to be given the benefit of any doubt about its compatability with modern ideas about running a public transport system.

If the House of Lords is unable to take that more indulgent view of the Act it will not be tragedy. There will be a clear and early need for new legislation, and that would provide an opportunity to reconsider the GLC's role. Its record of a decade's responsibility for London transport is not a success, irrespective of party control. The system has noticeably deteriorated. It has been a victim of party politics. It is hampered by separated responsibility for the railway commuter services. Rates levied on domestic and commercial properties are much too narrow a base for a policy of systematic subsidy. The principle of regional resources for regional subsidies is a good one, but when the only regional resources made available is the already overburdened rating system good principle turns into bad practice. This, like much else at present, points to the need for radical reform of the financial resources of local government and of its accountability to its electors.

DR OWEN (WHOM GOD PRESERVE)

Eggs, flour, water and paint have long been the stuff of dialectics at Sussex University. The list of famous speakers who have been given the treatment would be longer than it is, and it is long enough, if it were not that the conduct of the students' union has discouraged acceptance of their invitations. The students, it must be fairly said, have acquired a reputation for impartiality: there are eggs and flour for all political hues. On Tuesday night it was the turn of David Owen who arrived to find the platform "occupied" and was imprudent enough to give an exposition on battlefield nuclear weapons which was so conclusively taxing on the Sussex intellects that it had to be answered by one tomato, then a second and a third. He advanced on the tomato thrower who ran away.

It will be argued that Dr Owen showed a serious misunderstanding of the constitutional convention at Sussex. The only possible precedent is the case of Dr Strabismus (whom God preserve) of Utrecht who arrived to speak to a crowd and, after a few moments of oratory, proceeded to pelt the audience with rotten eggs. His normally reliable biographer J. B. Morton records that as he was led away he remarked, "Oh dear, I seem to have got things the wrong way round."

But Dr Owen is a little different from Dr Strabismus. He had arrived without eggs or tomatoes. His advance into the audience was merely to deprive the tomato thrower of his weapons, a unilateral disarmament measure of which the howling Left ought surely to approve. The real question is not the robustly eccentric behaviour of the good doctor of our own times, but the defence offered by the students' union and others. Only a minority, it is said, were throwing tomatoes. Why then, Dr Strabismus might ponder, did the other 499 let them do it?

Obligations and SDP

From Dr David Mervin

Sir, There is surely more than a little justification for Mr Foot's suggestion that Dr Owen and his SDP colleagues should resign from the House of Commons.

The bestowal of a party nomination carries with it both benefits and obligations. The most obvious benefit is that a party label is virtually indispensable to electoral success. Independent candidates are almost always doomed to failure from the beginning, whereas major party candidates benefit enormously from the resources of party.

Parties possess money, expertise, organisational facilities, armies of volunteer workers and traditions of loyalty and support, all of which are essential to victory at the polls.

In return for such formidable benefits those elected in the party's name incur implicit obligations. Rank-and-file party members trudging the streets on their behalf are entitled to expect that those lucky enough to obtain the party's nomination will, if elected, do their utmost to further the interests of the party and to advance the causes that the party holds dear.

No doubt circumstances may arise where MPs feel that, in all conscience, they cannot honour their obligations to party. They may grow apart from their party or they may come to feel that their party has grown apart from them. One can readily understand how this may happen, but surely in such cases resignation is the only honourable course.

By contrast, Dr Owen and his colleagues are now using their postions as MPs as platforms from which to assail the very parties that made possible their election to the House of Commons in the first place.

Social Democrats have spoken glowingly of a new beginning in British politics and they have been scathingly critical of the "old" politics; however if they are to be consistent in their high-mindedness they should resign and resubmit themselves for election under their new colours.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID MERVIN,
Senior Lecturer in Politics,
University of Warwick,
Coventry.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trotskyites in the Labour Party

From Mr Alan Williams, MP for Swansea, West (Labour)

Sir, The refusal even to investigate Trotskyite infiltration of the party means that time is running out for Labour. Important gains by the "moderates" at annual conference will be dissipated unless the parliamentary party takes a strong stand in the current "shadow cabinet" elections.

Survival of the party is now the issue. MPs who have been demanding that they should have the freedom to use their personal judgment must now have the courage to do so.

I suggest to my parliamentary colleagues that in casting their votes on this occasion they can help the survival of the party by distinguishing, not between left, right and centre, but between those who favour keeping the Trotskyites within the party and those who do not.

The shadow cabinet should represent a cross-section of the policy views within the PLP. But we should not accept anyone on our parliamentary committee who would compromise with the erosive plotting of the anti-democratic Trotskyist infiltrators. They are carrion waiting to feed on the body of the democratic Labour Party. They hope to cheat their way to power under Labour's banners.

Of course, as Michael Foot says, the Labour movement must unite to fight the next election. But it must not be a false, transient unity designed to deceive the electorate. Labour Party unity will only be acceptable to the voters if, underlying that unity, is an unshakable commitment to British parliamentary democracy. The Trotskyites not only lack this commitment to our system, they are actively dedicated to its downfall. They should be made to stand before the electorate in their own clothes. The PLP should massively reject anyone who would lend them ours.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WILLIAMS,
House of Commons.
November 10.

Ireland's future

From Mr Jonathan Moore

Sir, David Morrison's article, "Why Dr FitzGerald's crusade will not unite Ireland" (November 9), shows a complete lack of understanding of the significance of Ireland removing articles 2 and 3 from the Constitution.

Mr Morrison argues that by the South ceasing to lay claim to the Six Counties the IRA will have the "impetus" removed from their movement. This presumes that the IRA derive their legitimacy from the 1937 Constitution, which is simply not true. Their legitimacy derives from the 1916 proclamation, made on the steps of the Post Office in Dublin.

Altering the contents of the "Free State" Constitution will not change the attitude of the Provisionals one little bit. It will simply reinforce their conviction that the Dail is full of Quislings and not nationalists, and that they have fooled the Southern Irish people.

No, the importance of the constitutional crusade lies not in its effect on the Republicans, but on its effect on the Unionists. For decades, many Unionist politicians have opposed dialogue with Southern politicians on the grounds of the South's constitutional claim to the North. This claim has been seen, with much justification, as highly offensive and indicative of Southern wishes to coerce and dominate Northern Protestants. It was impossible for any trust to exist in such an atmosphere.

Without such constitutional threats existing, a genuine dialogue between North and South can ensue. Since Mr Morrison is only too aware that one million Protestants cannot be forced into a united Ireland against their will (this is the real meaning of the constitutional guarantee) the Union is not being threatened by any talks.

Progress in the island of Ireland can only occur when the two traditions come to understand each other. This can only come about through discussion. Garret FitzGerald's initiative is a long overdue step in moving towards this attainable goal. He should thus be applauded for it.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. MOORE,
University of York,
Department of Politics,
Heslington,
York.
November 9.

Tale of two Escorts

From Mr P. I. J. K. Sparrow

Sir, In his letter to you (October 27) Mr Herman Rebhan, General Secretary, The International Metalworkers' Federation, stated that "Ford production schedules are always a function of market demands", and that the answer to the low output of Escorts from Halewood "lay in the fact that Ford became politically sensitised to imports of Escorts from its low-wage Spanish plant coupled with a sharp increase in United Kingdom demands".

As a main Ford dealer I write to dispute his facts. Firstly, all Escorts for this country are produced at Halewood, with the exception of the Escort Ghia, which is made in Germany; and, secondly, we in common with all other main Ford dealers have been desperately short of Escorts throughout the whole of 1981 and it is only now that production from Halewood is beginning to catch up with demand.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK SPARROW,
Managing Director,
Knutsford Motors Ltd.,
Chester Way, Northwich, Cheshire.

Rational approaches to disarmament

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, You had this to say in a recent editorial (October 2):

> The huge accumulations of weaponry which the two [blocks] brandish at each other are wholly out of proportion to any genuine conflict of interests. There is no serious competition for essential resources, or for territory that is truly vital to the security of either, and the ideological fires have dwindled on both sides. In strictly objective terms a reasonable degree of accommodation should be easily attainable.

You went on to add that this endemic state of conflict is, like others in history, "essentially irrational" — but none the less perilous for that. This is close to my own perception. The problem, then, is to insert some rationality into the relations between the two blocks before it is too late.

I, and CND, wish to commence with nuclear disarmament because, in our view, nuclear weapons are both the prime instruments and the prime symbols of this dangerous irrationality. When Professor Michael Howard asks us, in his interesting letter of November 3, whether we should not also campaign to maintain and to strengthen alternative non-nuclear defences, the answer cannot be a simple yes or no. For he is leaving aside a third alternative, which is that initiatives in nuclear disarmament, taken together with vigorous political initiatives, might lead directly on to measures of conventional disarmament also.

If we start to remove the worst symbols of unreason, this might be a first step towards courses of rational negotiation in general. And this cannot be helped forward if we exaggerate the supposed imbalance of conventional forces in Europe, or are immobilised by worst-case hypotheses as to a possible Soviet threat.

I am proposing a better-case hypothesis; and I am also arguing that we must bend every effort to bring that better case about. Our civilisation is now in a desperate state of crisis, and there is no way out of this predicament which may not entail some risk. If we do succeed in pulling some of these foul nuclear emblems down, and if there is then no corresponding reduction (whether nuclear or conventional) on the other side, then Mr Howard will be entitled to put his question again, and in earnest.

He may receive different answers from members of the peace movement; some (like myself) may accept the course of Sweden or Yugoslavia, with strong, but truly defensive establishments; others may argue for passive measures of alternative defence. I am not overwhelmed with embarrassment that we might not agree on a common answer. Our opponents, the advocates of "deterrence" and of nuclear weaponry, are now offering as many answers as they have heads.

It is also important (and we acknowledge this) that our first acts of disarmament should meet with a response from the other side. To clear the way for more honest and open East-West communication between all genuine disarmers is as important as is opposition to particular weapons. Councillor Tony Kerpel (October 30) doubts whether any such dialogue is possible.

I had drafted a reply to Mr Kerpel when Mr Howard's more weighty letter intervened. I can only say, in a brief space, that this dialogue, despite all difficulties, is taking shape. The findings of the Washington conference of Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War have already been published as fully in the Soviet as in the Western press (details in the *New Scientist*, October 8). President Ceausescu of Romania has directed an even-handed invitation to both the Soviet Union and the United States to remove nuclear weapons from Europe. At the recent congress of Solidarity the international spokesman, Mr Bogdan Lis, called explicitly for opposition to militarism, East and West.

Appeals are now being canvassed in both East and West Germany calling for measures to demilitarize both countries: one such appeal, drafted by Dr Robert Havemann, the East German physicist and civil rights supporter, takes the form of an open letter to Mr Brezhnev. Even our small *END Bulletin* is commencing published exchanges with Polish, Czech and Hungarian readers. Millions of East Germans will have seen West German television coverage of the great Bonn rally on October 10, at which a multitude of banners were raised calling for a nuclear-free Europe, East and West. Such causes are infectious and can cross frontiers.

At the Hyde Park demonstration on October 24 I called on opinion in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe "to join hands in this common struggle — not only against Nato's modernization but also against their own." This was not a rhetorical flourish. It is our steady aim. The dialogue is difficult and must go through many channels. It is essential to survival. The obstacles which prevent it do not exist only over there, on the other side. They exist on this side also. One such obstacle is the kind of hostility towards any dialogue to which Mr Kerpel's letter gave expression.

Yours faithfully,
E. P. THOMPSON,
Wick Episcopi,
Upper Wick,
Worcester.
November 9.

Parental attitudes to the handicapped

From Lord Hastings

Sir, Professor Mason (November 7) is right to draw attention to the highly unsatisfactory legal position remaining unresolved by the handling and outcome of Dr Arthur's case, and as a result it is probable that the Down's Children's Association, of which I am not a member, is correct in believing that more children suffering from this disability will be allowed to die in the future.

What is so serious and depressing about this case is that attention has been concentrated on the likely death by natural causes of a mongol child and on ways in which this can, if desired, be brought about, So far as I can ascertain nothing has been said during the case or in the press, or even in the penetrating television programme *Newsnight* (BBC 2, November 5) about the simple fact that adequate medical care and good nursing can ensure the survival of mongol children who do not suffer from multiple complications.

I know what I am speaking about because, when my wife gave birth to a Down's child, the paediatrician painted the gloomiest of pictures as though the infant were a monster and utterly useless. Although these babies are notoriously reluctant to demand food, or to suck, he forbade feeding by tube. The nursing sister disagreed and told my wife, who immediately countermanded the order, and got her gynaecologist to back her up.

It is incredible to us that 13 years later paediatricians are still giving out-of-date and prejudicial advice to ignorant mothers in an emotional state of shock, instead of dwelling upon the brighter side, and upon the qualities which are unique to mongols.

Our little Down's boy now enjoys riding, playing badminton, cricket, football and rugby in his own fashion (the more tumbles the better) and contrary to what we were told by officialdom he reads well and can write a legible letter. His marvellous sense of humour, infectious laughter and irresistible smile, coupled with a prodigious memory for people, places and past events, wins friends wherever he goes. His unswerving affection, utter trust, and infinitely forgiving nature, make a major contribution to family life and to his special (Sheiling) school, where he can "get through" to children more severely handicapped than himself in a way no normal person can.

Quite apart from the moral aspect of this whole problem (and I agree in principle with the views of Cardinal Hume expressed on television, although I am not a Roman Catholic) the purpose of this letter is, first, to ask physicians in general and paediatricians in particular to adopt a more positive attitude towards mongol children and, secondly, to help the future parents of these children to realise it is a privilege and a joy to assist them to develop their full potential. They will also discover that it is a rare experience of great value to themselves and to any community which does fully accept a Down's child as of equal human value.

Yours faithfully,
HASTINGS,
House of Lords.
November 9.

From Mrs Beatrice Sofaer

Sir, The dilemma facing the medical profession in making decisions such as that given publicity by the Dr Arthur case has been widely discussed, but the extreme difficulty of carrying them out has been given little attention.

Nurses may be in the position of having to withhold treatment according to the decision of others and must witness the progressive deterioration of life that results. This difficulty is made more acute in the knowledge that, in addition to the malformation itself being an accident of birth, the decision to maintain or not to maintain life may depend on another accident, whether or not the baby has parents who are willing to accept the baby.

One can therefore envisage a situation where there might be two Down's syndrome babies in the same neonatal nursery, both similarly affected, but for whom nurses would be required to adopt conflicting ethical principles.

If a nurse carries out instructions to withhold treatment can she be held responsible for a baby's death? If a nurse were to ignore instructions to withhold treatment and strove to maintain life, to whom would she be responsible if a baby failed to die?

Yours sincerely,
BEATRICE SOFAER,
Nursing Research Unit,
Department of Nursing Studies,
University of Edinburgh,
12 Buccleuch Place,
Edinburgh.
November 9.

The urban fox

From Mr David Green

Sir, The urban evolution of the fox (feature, October 31) is an obvious response to the fact that the vast preponderance of those excessively solicitous for its welfare live in an urban environment.

With luck it will make everyone happy. By strict control of rural foxes we shall see (as we have) a resurgence of other wild life predators with whom it competes for food such as buzzards and kestrels as well as other creatures; and we shall not have our poultry decapitated and our new-born stock attacked.

At the same time those who — dare I say it — lionise the fox, and seek to deprive it of its only natural predator, can enjoy it in their own surroundings.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyd yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Haverfordwest.
November 9.

Cable and Wireless shares sale

From Mr Frank McLaren

Sir, It is the prerogative of Parliament to decide, as trustee of the nation's assets, to acquire, to retain or dispose of publicly-owned companies as it sees fit. The Government is entitled to dispose of assets such as the recent 50 per cent sale of Cable and Wireless irrespective of whether its motives are economic or political.

The sale of Cable and Wireless shares has been acclaimed as a success and to the extent that the sale has been completed this is true, but there is one aspect of the sale which is nothing less than a national scandal: 133 million shares were disposed of at the price of £1.68 each, raising £224m. However, the market price appears to be settling at around 30p higher than the disposal price. The nation has been defrauded of £39m by the financial mismanagement of the Prime Minister and the Treasury, and this shortfall will have to be made up by the taxpayer.

There is no insurmountable practical reason why the shares could not have been disposed of by tender like many gilt issues and the price paid would have been much closer to the real value of the shares.

According to *The Times* perhaps as many as 50 million shares were sold again on the first day of trading of the new issue, giving the City stags an overnight profit of around £15m. Is this a coincidence at a time when the Conservative Party, whose finance traditionally comes from the City, is short of funds?

With future sales of public assets coming up our members of Parliament have a duty to ensure that the nation is not short-changed again.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK McLAREN,
13 Shelbury Close,
Sidcup,
Kent.
November 8.

Pension tax

From Mr J. E. Moore

Sir, As an alternative to Professor Layard's "inflation tax", your correspondent, Peter Thurnham (October 22) suggests a tax on civil servants' inflation-proof pensions. Presumably this would be in addition to income tax and the many indirect taxes already paid by those in retirement.

Mr Thurnham should realise that these pensions have been paid for with money which had a much higher value than it has now, and that to repay such contributions with present-day devalued currency would be dishonest, to say the least.

At the time that the superannuation payments were made they were quite adequate, from an actuarial point of view, to provide the pensions promised. Had not successive governments devalued the currency by continually increasing the money supply (that is, by printing it) there would be no need for index-linking.

The connection between currency inflation and price increases is no longer questioned. I see no reason therefore in the suggestion that index-linked pensions should be burdened with an additional tax.

It is perhaps also fair to point out that, had successive governments not met their public-spending requirements, in part by currency inflation, then Mr Thurnham's income tax would have been much higher all these years.

Yours sincerely,
J. E. MOORE,
10 Litchfield Way,
Hampstead Garden Suburb,
Finchley, NW11.

Nicaragua prisoners

From the Nicaraguan Ambassador

Sir, With reference to your editorial of November 6, "A debatable Cuban domino", it must be stressed that the applications of the law against these persons are specific actions against specific individuals who have violated the Economic and Social Emergency Law.

In no way can this be construed as an attack on the Supreme Council of Private Enterprise as an organization, nor against their normal activities, nor as an action against private enterprise in general, nor their right to function within the framework of the law, and even less as a departure from the overall approach to the mixed economy plan of the Nicaraguan Revolution.

What these sentences show, above all, is that the revoulutionary laws of Nicaragua do not envisage helping certain capitalists and their scheming, nor for that matter those communists who acting outside the limits of the revolutionary process. The law will be applied to those who sabotage production, whether it be at international level or at local level. The Government is responsible for seeing that the economy does not deteriorate any further.

Yours truly,
FRANCISCO d'ESCOTO,
Embassy of Nicaragua,
8 Gloucester Road, SW7.

Point of precedence

From Mrs Judith Filkin-Hunt

Sir, Margaret Lane (November 7) should be reassured that the precedence of a first-born daughter is unlikely to be a problem for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Surely they must be privy to the secret that has enabled her Majesty the Queen, their Royal Highnesses Princess Anne and Princess Margaret, the Duchesses of Gloucester and Kent, Princess Alexandra and Princess Michael of Kent to produce a first-born son followed by a daughter.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH FILKIN-HUNT,
70 Park Hall Road, N2.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 11: His Excellency Mr Sjahabuddin Arifin was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Indonesia to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Agus Tarmidzi (Minister), Mr A. K. P. Lolong (Minister Counsellor), Colonel Tonny Soekaton (Defence Attaché), Mr C. Tathitu (Minister Counsellor), Mr S. Lumban Tobing (Commercial Attaché), Mr Irawan Abidin (First Secretary), Mr Toto Soegiharto (Second Secretary) and Mr Suparmin Sunjoyo (Third Secretary).

Madame Arifin had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir John Graham (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr E. G. Smallman was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to Jamaica.

Mrs Smallman had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Very Reverend Professor Robert Barbour had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, this afternoon attended a Regimental Reception given by the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers at St James's Palace, where Her Majesty was received by the Colonel of the Regiment (Colonel Henry Brooke) and the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Radford).

Lady Susan Hussey, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, the International Year of Disabled People, this afternoon attended a seminar on the prevention of disablement at Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent.

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr Francis Cornish, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 11: The Duke of Kent today visited Rolls Royce Limited at Bristol.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN.

The Duke of Kent, Patron, this evening opened "The Tiger of Malaya" Exhibition at the National Army Museum and also attended the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Museum.

Captain Mark Bullough was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon visited the London Arts Educational School at Golden Lane House, Barbican.

Mrs Alan Henderson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 11: The Duchess of Gloucester this evening was present at a Concert given for The Royal Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb at St John's Smith Square, London.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

Memorial services for Lord Boyle of Handsworth will be held on Tuesday, November 17, at St Margaret's, Westminster at noon, and on Monday, November 23, at Leeds Parish Church at noon.

A memorial service for Mrs Ann Fleming will be held on Friday, November 20, at St James's Church, Piccadilly, at 11.30 am.

A memorial service for Professor Robert McKenzie will be held at the Church of Christ The King, Gordon Square, London, WC1, on Monday, December 7, 1981, at 11 am.

Anne, Countess of Rosse deeply regretted being unable to attend the memorial meeting for Mr A. W. Acworth on November 6 at St John's, Smith Square, SW1.

Sir Charles Johnston represented the Order of St Michael and St George at the memorial service for Viscount Hood held on Tuesday at St Margaret's, Westminster.

Forthcoming marriages

Lord Francis Seymour and Miss P. Poynder
The engagement is announced between Francis, younger son of the Duke and Duchess of Somerset, of Maiden Bradley, Wiltshire, and Paddy, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs A. J. I. Poynder, of 47 Limerston Street, London, SW10.

Mr R. A. J. Needham and Miss L. P. Bucknell
The engagement is announced between Robin Arthur John, elder son of the late Major the Hon Peter Needham and of the Hon Mrs Needham, The Old Manor House, Helmsley, York, and Lucy Potter, only daughter of Captain Howard Bucknell, III, USN (Ret), of East Hampton, New York, and of Mrs Sally Scott Bucknell, of Newport, Rhode Island and New York. The marriage will take place shortly in the United States.

Mr W. J. E. Hanham and Miss E. A. Keyworth
The engagement is announced between William John Edward, son of Sir Michael Hanham, Bt, and Lady Hanham, of Deans Court, Wimborne, Dorset, and Elizabeth Anne, younger daughter of Mr P. Keyworth, of The Old Cottage, Farnham, Surrey, and Mrs K. E. Thomas, of Tilmore House, Petersfield, Hampshire.

Mr S. R. Tatham and Miss S. M. Munns
The engagement is announced between Simon Ralph, eldest son of Mr and Mrs C. T. C. Tatham, of Kew Gardens, Surrey, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs W. W. Munns, of Brent Knoll, Somerset.

Mr J. W. Rumbellow and Miss S. M. S. Erle-Drax
The engagement is announced between James, son of the late Commodore J. F. Rumbellow, OBE, and Mrs H. P. Rumbellow, of Whitley Bay, Northumberland, and Sally, daughter of Mr J. C. W. S. Erle-Drax and the late Mrs M. V. Erle-Drax, of Bilting House, Ashford, Kent.

Mr N. Bevan and Miss H. C. Berry
The engagement is announced between Nicolas, second son of the late Dr Roger Bevan and of Mrs Diana Bevan, of Fletching, Sussex, and Christine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs N. A. Berry, of Rhyl, Clwyd.

Mr D. J. W. Greenish and Miss B. M. Knudtzon
The engagement is announced between Damien Greenish and Bettina Knudtzon.

Mr M. V. Emery and Miss S. Z. Chen
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late H. V. Emery and of Mrs D. M. Emery, of Wellington, Surrey, and Zita, only daughter of Mr and Mrs S. J. Chen, of Montreal, Canada.

Mr C. N. Pedlar and Miss D. K. Myklebust
The engagement is announced between Christopher Neil, son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Pedlar, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, and Debra Kay, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs K. N. Myklebust, of Novato, California, USA.

Lt P. K. Boden, RAN and Miss C. M. Cutter
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs K. Boden, of Brisbane, Australia, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Cutter, of Yolland, Yelverton, South Devon.

Mr C. J. G. Moulder, RE and Miss J. C. Stevenson
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Moulder, of Brentwood, Essex, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Stevenson, of Nether Winchendon, Buckinghamshire.

Mr K. D. Wellbelove and Miss V. A. Fairweather
The engagement is announced between Ken, second son of Mr and Mrs S. F. Wellbelove, of Kingston, Surrey, and Victoria, third daughter of the late George Fairweather and Mrs Audrey Hammond, of Poole Keynes, Gloucestershire.

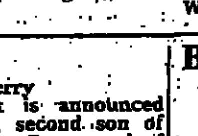
Memorial Service

Sir Henry Barnard
The Lord Chief Justice was present at a memorial service for Sir Henry Barnard which was held in Gray's Inn Chapel on Tuesday. Canon Eric James officiated and the lesson was read by Mr Justice Croom-Johnson, Treasurer of Gray's Inn. Lord Edmund-Davies, Dean of the Chapel, gave an address. Among those present were:

Mr A. B. Hollis, QC, and Mrs Hollis, Mrs J. Burnell, Mr and Mrs John Fox, His Honour and Mrs Roger Willis, Mr and Mrs Nigel Miller, Miss J. Carter, Mr Alan Stevenson.

Lord Shawcross, QC, Lady Edmund-Davies, Sir John Megaw, Mr Justice and Lady Mars-Jones, Mr Justice Ewbank, Mr Justice Reeve, Sir John Compton Miller, Sir Douglas Frank, QC, Lady (Dingle) Foot, Judge Sleeman, Mr David Karmel, QC, Mr Leonard Caplan, QC, Prof R. H. Graveson, QC, Mr E. L. Gardner, QC, MP, Mr J. T. Plume, Mr R. F. Stone, QC, Mr Gerald R. A. Darling, QC (Judge of the Admiralty Court of the Cinque Ports), Mr R. R. O. Barwick (Walmer and Kingsdown Golf Club), Mr and Mrs B. Weston, Mr M. A. Hetherington, Mr Louis Carne, Mr J. R. Whitley, Mr C. J. Bourke and Mr R. Cade.

Birthdays today





The Rev Dr Chad Varah, founder of the Samaritans, who is 70

Mr Justice Goff, 55; Mr J. A. S. Ingamells, 47; Sir Ronald Millar, 62; Major-General Sir Gerald Duke, 73; Sir Charles Sopwith, 76; the Marquess of Zetland, 73.

Recital

Cruse
A recital was given yesterday by Miss Elizabeth Harwood, soprano, at the home of Lord and Lady Craigmyle in aid of Cruse, the National Organization for the Widowed and their Children. Mr Derek Nuttall, director, introduced the recital and a presentation was made by Sir Sigmund Sternberg, national treasurer, to Mrs V. Wauchope who organized the event.

Institute of Actuaries

Mr George Howard, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the British Broadcasting Corporation, was the principal guest at the biennial dinner of the Institute of Actuaries held at Grosvenor House yesterday and proposed the toast to the institute. Mr Antony R. N. Ratcliff, president, replied and proposed the toast to the guests. Judge James Miskin, QC, Recorder of London, replied.

Latest wills

William Edwardes, Seventh Baron KENSINGTON, of Salisbury, Zimbabwe, late Lieutenant-Colonel Guides Cavalry Indian Army, left estate in England and Wales valued at £280,502.

Mr Leslie Sydney MARLER, of Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire, chairman of Capital and Counties Property from 1950 to 1971 and of Marler Estates 1972-78, left estate valued at £277,316 gross, net nil.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher receiving a "Charter for the 80s" from Dr Harry Fang, president of Rehabilitation International, in Downing Street yesterday. The charter is a statement of the priorities for improving the lives of disabled people.

A son for a Princess

Princess Maria-Teresa, wife of Prince Henri of Luxembourg, gave birth to a son yesterday, the Court of Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Charlotte, the boy's grandparents, said in a statement in Luxembourg.

The boy was born by Caesarean section to prevent the possibility of subsequent complications and has been named Guillaume Jean Joseph Marie.

"Mother and child are in perfect health", the statement said. Prince Henri, eldest son of Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Charlotte, was present during the birth.

One hundred and one cannon shots were fired in Luxembourg to announce the baby's birth.

Princess Marie-Teresa is aged 25 and was born in Cuba. Her husband is aged 26. They were married in Luxembourg on February 14.

Offices to have new theatre

By Christopher Warman

The Half Moon Theatre in the east end of London is to have a new home as a result of a property deal approved by the Greater London Council and Tower Hamlets Borough Council.

Part of the deal, which will enable the new Half Moon to be built at a cost of £1.2m, involves the provision of 123,000 sq ft of offices, as well as a public house and wine bar, in a new building and the rehabilitation of several listed buildings.

Defending the decision, Mr Illtyd Harrington, deputy leader of the GLC and chairman of the theatre appeal, said the site in the Mile End Road, Stepney, was one of the few suitable for office development. "Notwithstanding the general policy of restraint on new office development in central London, the scheme is a worthwhile one."

The private developer, Central and City Properties, is providing much of the £1.2m cost of the new theatre, and the GLC has agreed in principle to assist financially.

Luncheons

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs, India.

Lord Peart
Lord Peart was host at a luncheon reception given yesterday at the House of Lords when Diplomas in Safety Management were presented. Among the guests were Members of Parliament and representatives of the British Safety Council.

Reception

Jordan Ambassador
The Jordan Ambassador held a reception yesterday at Claridge's hotel in honour of Lieutenant-General Sharif Zeid Bin Shaker, Commander-in-Chief, Royal Jordanian Armed Forces. The guests included members of the Diplomatic Corps, members of Her Majesty's Government and Her Majesty's Household, members of both Houses of Parliament, representatives of the Foreign Office and other government departments and other friends of Jordan.

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday. The guests were: Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, and Mrs Armstrong, Mr Robert Brown, MP, and Mrs Brown, Mr Owen Cunningham, MP, and Mrs Cunningham, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Cardiff, the Mayor and Mayoress of Islington, [illegible] Kenneth Brown, Mr and Mrs John Downing, Mrs Dianne Dyer, Mr and Mrs D. Garfield Davies, Professor E. Levinson, Mr Geoffrey Nash, Professor and Mrs John Pathy, Miss Janet Payne, Mr Christopher Pryce, Mr and Mrs Derek Rapport, Miss Jean Rook, Mr Kenneth Rose and Councillor Dr and Councillor Mrs Henry Russell.

Coningsby Club
The Coningsby Club entertained Mr David Howell, MP, at dinner last night at the House of Commons. Mr Richard Ryder presided.

Service dinner

Royal Navy — Naval Air Command
The Naval Air Command celebrated the forty-first anniversary of the Battle of Taranto last night in the Wardroom of HMS Heron. Rear-Admiral E. R. Anson presided. The guests included officers who took part in the battle and the traditional speech was made by the guest of honour, Mr Ludovic Kennedy.

Apple harvest

The Apple Harvest dinner took place last night at Painters and Stainers Hall. Mr A. S. Hooper presided and proposed the health of the guests. Mr B. A. Johnston replied. Among the guests were: Mr Edward du Cann, MP, Sir Fred Warner, Professor J. M. Hirst, Mr J. A. Bamford, Mr C. J. Packman.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Many people find it difficult to trace the connexion between the Japan of history and the Japan of today. On the one hand, exquisite hand-crafted delicacy; on the other, a world of mass-production, electronics and car bodies.

But I have found a firm link between ancient Japan and modern Japan: the haiku. This is a three-lined poem (5, 7, then 5 syllables) which mirrors some form of human emotion in the natural world in a striking image. For instance, from the seventeenth century:

Where the cockoo flies
till it is lost to sight — out there
a lone island lies

The great names of haiku-writing from the past are men like Basho, Buson and Issa, who took their images from homely nature. But their modern equivalents — poets like Datsun and Honda, Toshiba and Mitsubishi — take their images straight from technology. The delicacy is still there, but allied to a contemporary vision. Here are a few striking poems written in the last 10 years.

The grey geese fly south
and almost escape when click!
they freeze in a film.
(by Nikon)

Spring, cherry blossom
Autumn still cherry blossom!
Japanese plastic
(Mitsubishi)

Four doors surround me,
two in the back, two in front
Where do I get in?
(Datsun. An unusually joky haiku. The original Japanese reads roughly: new/style/saloon/model: oh/so/roomy)

The old temple bell,
it haunts me. I press again
the replay button
(Sony)

You take your shoes off.
I take mine, and we have lunch.
Later I am rich.
(Hitachi. Almost untranslatable, this one. The Japanese text is literally something like: Japanese/steak / house / for / business / meeting: you / think / Brit / winning-argument. How-wrong/can/you-be?)

In the boot I find
Bat, ball, frisbee, kitchen sink.
Ah! The days of youth.
(Toyota. The poet is here trying to convey two messages; the distance of youthful innocence and the spaciousness of modern Japanese boots. A Japanese reader would catch other overtones, such as the fleeting nature of memory and the new, improved siting of the wing mirrors.)

My name sounds a bit Japanese.
It isn't actually. But I don't mind,
As it always helps in world markets to sound Japanese.
Ferodo! A very inferior and shoddy imported bit of verse, probably from Europe.)

Today you get your fourth card in our fabulous Times 5-Card Stud Poker game. You already have three kings, while the Features Editor, Your opponent, has one card face down and two tens.

Your new card today is the Q♦, His new card is the 10♥. So he now has three tens to your three kings, while you have the chance of a full house or, of course, four kings. How can you lose?

The Features Editor, by the way, is smoking more than usual and his work is suffering. But he refuses to throw in his hand.

Now is your chance to clean up. Send another £100 stake and get your last card tomorrow. Friday is payday!

THE TIMES UNIVERSITY RESULTS SERVICE

The following pass list from University College, London, is published:

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
BSc (ENG)

First class honours: [illegible]

Second class honours — upper division: [illegible]

Second class honours — lower division: [illegible]

Third class honours: [illegible]

Pass: [illegible]

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
BSc

First Class Honours: [illegible]

Second Class Honours — Upper Division: Ahmad Shaista, Aiken W J, Alexander R P, Ashmore Elizabeth J, Astley Alison J, Avraamidus P C, Baghoomian R, Bagnall Diana E, Barkel D J D, Barnett Karen, Bennett B L, Bird Susan M, Bishop Virginia M, Broadhurst T P, Brown C J, Brown S J, Buff P S, Buzzoni R, Cargill Susan J, Clark K R, Colledge Lorraine, Collins Penelope A, Colyer Perthan E, Cooke T D, Cox Jennifer F, Cross Juliet F, Davies [illegible] C, Demetriou A S, Demetriou Angela, Deverell Anne F, Dole M P, Dolling W R, Drury Anne C, Eaves Sally J, Eden Sarah, Ember R G, Entwistle Sarah-Jane, Evans Ceri M, Fairley J, Fincancioglu Elif, Finnie J J, Flanagan Joy M, Flockhart Sandra L, Fox B, Fox N P, Fryman F D, Fussell Caroline M, Galt G F, Gardyn Eva S, Gianino J S, Giles Elizabeth A, Gillis S S, Goraj T A, Goss Sally F M, Graham Williamina, Green P G, Gregory D J, Gummery Sian [illegible]

Second Class Honours — Lower Division: [illegible]

Third Class Honours: [illegible]

Pass: [illegible]

FACULTY OF ARTS
BA

First Class Honours: Cohen Anna M, Feinsenstein C L, Glover E J, Hand C C, Jones P M, Whalmore Sarah J.

Second Class Honours — Upper Division: Allwood Julia E, Balmer Josephine, Barry C A, Blakemore Alison A F, Brenan Mary J, Burnell A D, Burns P B, Churchill Sally G, Dean Anna C, Dean C D, Dennis S S, Gange Danielle I, Gardiner Karen L, Hampson G P, Harmes G P, Hodge A J, Hussey Clare M J, Lawton Debra L, Lymar Andrea, O'Sullivan N J B, Pluck Heather A, Reading Susan C, Richards Rachel A, Russell Claire, Sellers Elizabeth, Smith M P, Warren N K, Williams Marian J.

Second Class Honours — Lower Division: Ashworth Janet L, Barber C H, Barnes Susanna M, Barradell J B, Bloodworth Catherine L, Briggs R J A, Brown C J, Byrne D G, Calder M B, Campbell-Harris A E, Czechowska Joanna B, Day M G J, Dean S C, Dyer Genevieve A, Greenwood Katherine A, Himsworth M A, Horsley Fiona G, Howe M V, Johnson Christine A, Jones E G, Lawrie Heather R, Lee Wing Choung A, Luscombe A J, Macdonald Alasdair G, Menneer Caroline C L, Minney Clare A, Norton C C, Palmer Alison Patricia, Paterson-Brown T, Pike Maxime I, Ramirez M R R, Rimmington T O R, Sharp M A J, Shoebridge Louise, Shoucair Francesca H, Stinson A P, Woolfenden Elizabeth, Wright J K.

Third Class Honours: Blott Alison J, Lawson P, Whittaker P J.

Pass: Dick J.

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
BSc (ECON)

First class honours: Ball S P, Economides Androulla S, Han Juki Jong, Yung Wei Lien.

Second class honours — upper division: Adams N J, Dinnis R A, Evans M, Fishman Anne N, Franklin M G, Gallagher M J, Geagea G J, Gibbons M J E, Ikkos A I A, Joannidis J, Jones M A, Jones N W, Kang Choon Pin, Khan Yasmin, Maxwood May T, McLellan Elizabeth M S, Melkie C W G, Morgan C G, Neve S P, Panayiotopoulou Loukia P, Pengiis E, Plinik R D, Pirla Joanna A, Polak D T, Simpson C H M, Singer S, Talladoros I D, Thomas T J, Tinsley K P, Tukul J A, Turner Margaret K B.

Second class honours — lower division: Adhanto S, Allen A, Arpenti O, Arslanor S, Barklay I, Beale D J, Burke E M, Carleton M F, Caspi A, Christou C M, Donaldson I M, Elias S, Filkins Julia M, Hathiramani S A, Hingorani Annapurna, Horowitz Martine L, Husnu Hatice, Isaaks Carolyn M, Lembi L, Lawton I R, Longdon D W, Louizidis Irene-Nausica, Lowe W G, Mansell Carol A, Mason J M, Monk Sabena L, Naqvi A, Overton I M, Patel A K, Paytaisos A K, Reif Elizabeth, Richardson D J M, Rickell K M W, Rigby J F, Tan Jeng Chuan, Tang Yuk Luen R, Tayler Deborah, Thompson A R, Vanner P J, Varnavidou Koulla, Wells P G H, Walton Elizabeth A.

Third class honours: Adewusi Adelokunbo A, Ahmet O, Doe P M, Dovey J H, El-Melegy El-M A N, Gray R C, Lowe A A E, Mpratos J, Marinosdottir V, McLoughlin P, Muir Jane L M, Owoiss M Y M Z, Payne J P, Powe Sally J, Stevens T J, Tyloo E, Wong Yii Hung.

Pass: Atkinson C H, Brasseramp Lobo de Vasconcelos J D C, Geffen Z, Jones C N.

OBITUARY

M ABEL GANCE

Master of the spectacular cinema

M Abel Gance, one of the earliest, and greatest, masters of the spectacular cinema, died in Paris on November 10. He was 92.

Born in Paris in October, 1889, he worked in his youth enthusiastically as a writer and actor, first on the stage and then in films, mainly to raise enough money to finish his studies, but he soon became fascinated by the cinema for itself. His first directorial effort was *Le Masque d'Horreur* (1912), with the great tragedian de Max, but it was during the First World War that he really established himself as one of France's leading directors with a series of dramas and war films such as *Un Drama au Chateau d'Acre; La Fleur des Ruines; Les Gaz Mortels; La Zone de la Mort; Mater Dolorosa* and most famously *J'Accuse* (1919).

Gance has been called the Victor Hugo of the French cinema, and certainly in these films and those which followed he did much to justify the title: a fantastic romantic profusion of ideas, a taste for elaborate and intricate plots, and a mingling of ideas of great beauty and power with towering absurdities were always characteristic of his style. *J'Accuse*, though made in collaboration with the army authorities, turned out as a vaguely pacifist story about a crazed soldier-poet who summons visionary armies headed by Vercingetorix from their graves to fight for France, but despite the extravagance of incidence a certain amount of true feeling wins through, owing no doubt largely to Gance's mastery of his medium, learnt from the early films of de Mille and Thomas Ince.

Gance's next film, *La Roue*, took three years to make and cost an unprecedented amount for French studios of the time. By this date the masterpieces of Griffith had been shown in France, and Gance tried to emulate them in a vast epic story of an engine-driver who represents a modern equivalent of Oedipus and Sisyphus rolled into one. As usual in Gance's films, there are portions which are pretentious, extravagant or just absurd, but his superb sense of film triumphs in the wonderfully lyrical sections dealing with the railway, one of the finest expressions in art of a basically 19th-century brand of mechanical romanticism. It is worth noting too that in this film Gance broke with current practice by shooting most of the film out of doors, on location, and using rapid cutting to create his effects.

In his next important film, and his most famous, *Napoleon* (1927) he carried technical experiment even further, and incidentally anticipated many of the most modern filming techniques, by shooting it to be shown from three projectors on a triple screen. Though more than a little dubious historically and psychologically, the film remains a masterpiece (its enduring power was shown when it was revived in Paris in the Fifties and ran in a Montmartre cinema for more than two years): tremendously long and involved (despite the fact that it never got further than the crossing of the Alps for the first Italian campaign), it attained a genuinely epic quality and the spectacular scenes on the triple screen were most impressive, as was the extensive use of the "subjective camera" to record for the first time what it felt like to dive a hundred feet or be tossed in the air by a cannon ball. The film score was by Arthur Honegger who had composed the score for *La Roue*.

The film's influence lingered, those who had seen it when originally shown did not forget it and among those were General de Gaulle and M André Malraux, later to be French Minister of Culture. It has been said that they were among those who asked Gance to create a new version of his film which included sound and other technical innovations.

In November, 1980, a reconstructed version of Gance's epic by Mr Kevin Brownlow was shown to large audiences during the London Film Festival; it was shown again at special performances earlier this year. The music for the film was written by Carl Davis.

After *Napoleon* Gance overreached himself: his next film, which took even longer to make, was overtaken by the advent of sound, and was finally distributed in 1931 as a talking picture: its subject was *La Fin du Monde*. After the failure of this ambitious effort he fell back on a sound remake of his silent film *Mater Delorosa* (1932), and from then on found himself much less at home in the changed conditions of 1930s film-making, which forced him to curb his natural prolixity and extravagance.

His most interesting films of this period were *Lucrece Borgia* (1935) with Edwige Feuillre and some characteristic orgy scenes, *Un Grand Amour de Beethoven* (1937), distinguished by Harry Baur's performanve and some interesting experiments with sound to convey Beethoven's deafness, a remake of *J'Accuse* (1938), and the charming and delicate *Paradis Perdu* (1939).

After *Le Capitain Fracasse* (1942), Gance retired from the screen for a dozen years, reappearing with *La Tour de Nesle* (1955), a spirited and colourful version of Dumas's old sensational drama of incest and sadism in high circles. After this he continued to experiment with his old schemes for even bigger and better screens through a method of his own called Polyvision, the first results of his research being shown at the Brussels Exhibition in 1958.

Abel Gance was perhaps the greatest Romantic of the screen: his conceptions were always vast and intricate, and if no one could possibly live up to them completely at least Gance often succeeded beyond all expectation, producing, if never one film which was great as a whole, at least many individual sequences worthy to stand with the finest the cinema has to offer.

DR L. T. TOPSFIELD

Dr L. T. Topsfield died on November 3. His death, coming at a time when he was reaching a peak of productive scholarship, is a sad loss to medieval Romance studies and a severe blow to his college and university.

He came up to Cambridge from Westcliff H.S. in October, 1938, as an Open Exhibitioner in Modern Languages at St Catharine's, where he quickly established himself as the all-round college man he was to remain all his life.

Having taken a double first in French and German in Part 1 of the Modern Languages Tripos in 1939, he left in 1940 for war service in the Royal Signals, attaining the rank of Major before returning to St Catharine's on demobilization in January 1946. Achieving another first in Part 2 of the Tripos in 1947, elected a Scholar of the College and awarded in 1948 the Amy Mary Preston Read Scholarship, he went on to research in medieval Provençal, first in Cambridge under Dr H. J. Chaytor and then at the Sorbonne under Jean Boutière.

He was appointed a university assistant lecturer in French and Provençal in 1950 and promoted to university lecturer in 1955; in the former year he had been elected to a Fellowship and Directorship of Studies at St Catharine's and so begun a long period of devoted service to the college. While continuing to undertake throughout his life a full teaching career in the university lecture-rooms and a full teaching load for his own and other colleges, he undertook major college administrative offices — Praelector 1955-59; Domestic Bursar 1959-65; Tutor 1965-79 — and yet found time for outside academic activities.

Secretary of the Modern Humanities Research Association from 1950 to 1955, editor of *The Year's Work in Modern Language Studies* from 1955 to 1958, a member of several editorial boards and in increasing demand as a conference speaker and visiting lecturer at home and abroad, he published in 1971 his first major book, a long-needed critical scientific edition of the troubadour Raimon de Miraval, a publication which, allied to increasingly numerous and important contributions to learned journals, immediately ensured him an international reputation, a position he confirmed in 1975 with *Troubadours and Love*, a widely acclaimed treatise on courtly love which combined originality of thought with maturity of scholarship.

His increasing reputation was now attracting younger research students from home and abroad, adding new responsibilities to an already heavy teaching load but not preventing him from publishing in 1981 another characteristic major book, *Chrétien de Troyes; A study of the Arthurian Romances*: and, at the same time, he succeeded the late Professor J. A. W. Bennett as editor of *Medium Aevum*. Other important work, both individual and collaborative, was also in train.

Topsfield's early death has robbed him of the wider public academic recognition which must surely have come his way and which was perhaps already overdue. His scholarly output would have been even more extensive if he had been less involved in college work; but he was one of the diminishing number of dons for whom Cambridge centres above all on a college. With his wife Valerie, he was a generous and genial host to innumerable students and a sturdy supporter of all college sporting, social and cultural activities.

Overseas aid as export bait, page 17

Business News

THE TIMES Thursday November 12 1981



EEC increases steel prices despite protest

By Peter Norman and Peter Hill

European steelmakers were told yesterday that they should raise their prices for normal steel by an average of 12.5 per cent at the beginning of next year despite strong pressure from steel-users to postpone any rise.

The timing of the announcement by Viscount Etienne Davignon, the European Economic Community industry commissioner, surprised and angered leaders of Britain's steel users. They are among a delegation due to discuss the prices issue with Viscount Davignon today.

The proposal to raise prices has caused a wave of protest at the pace of steel increases and Mr John Safford, director of the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, said: "The nature of the announcement and its timing is typical of the disregard which the Commission has displayed towards the steel-using industries".

But the Commission believes that prices must rise to compensate for a 20 per cent increase in the steel industry's costs since the beginning of last year.

It has suggested that the January price increase, which would work out at 100 Deutsche marks (£24) a tonne, should be followed by further rises, totalling 40 Deutsche marks a tonne more, during next year. It said the additional increases should be carried through in at least two stages to protect customers from too abrupt a rise.

The decision is a blow to steel consumers, who argue that they already suffer from reduced demand and will find it difficult to absorb this latest round of increases. They are worried about the impact on short-term financial performance and longer term competitiveness.

But the Commission pointed out that the price increases pushed through by the steel industry in July and November had done no more than compensate for the 5 per cent drop in steel prices when the industry went into deep recession in 1980, and had done nothing to offset the increased cost of coke, oil, electricity and iron ore.

The Commission also urged a rise of about 10 per cent in the price of fine steels and special steels at the beginning of January.

However, in outlining the increases as a catching up exercise, it said the steel industry should aim to offset cost increases coming after the beginning of next year by more rationalization and by closing obsolete plant.

The steel-users welcomed this aspect of the Commission's decision.

Woolworth crackdown wipes out its loss

By Peter Wainwright

F. W. Woolworth, the store chain, is once again making money. Mr Geoffrey Rogers, its chairman, yesterday reported a £4.9m profit for the third quarter, wiping out the £1.48m loss of the previous six months.

In the nine months to October 31, the group made pretax profits of £3.4m against £7.1m. These are less than one half of 1 per cent of sales, which amounted, excluding value-added tax, to £709.2m, against £624.5m.

However, Woolworth was gratified with this 13.6 per cent gain in turnover, which was faster than the average High Street sales increase, and ahead of inflation.

To this extent, Operation Crackdown—launched last February when the group hired Wembley Conference Centre to announce a year-long price cutting campaign to 1,200 suppliers, stockbrokers and the media—has succeeded.

This campaign cut prices on 800 lines when competitors were also slashing prices.

Initial advertising expenditure was £6m, indicating Woolworth's basic problem in recession. Its rivals, such as Marks & Spencer, with an unshakeable reputation for quality and value, spend little on advertising.

The directors reported that the sales pattern in the nine months showed little change on the first half-year.

Financial Editor, page 17

Clive Landen



Georgian dockland to get a £30m facelift

The decaying dockland at Gloucester, above, much of it built in the early nineteenth century, is to be redeveloped at a cost of £30m. Sir Frank Price, chairman of the British Waterways Board, who promised that conservation would be the keynote, said: "The scheme will add an attractive, dynamic dimension to Gloucester, allowing its town centre to expand."

The redevelopment will include a new stretch of water, creating an island on which warehousing will be converted into 135 flats and new houses will be grouped round the historic Mariners' Church.

Other amenities will include facilities for leisure boating, a 70-bedroom hotel and a multi-storey car park with adjoining shops. Fourteen early nineteenth century warehouses will be converted for other uses, and one is now being surveyed by the Government for possible conversion into a crown court.

The project is being undertaken by Britannia (Cheltenham), which is heading a consortium. Investment is to be raised among small groups.

Report, page 16

New joint car project agreed with Honda

By Edward Townsend

BL and Honda of Japan will today announce an extension of their collaboration deal which will result in the joint manufacture of a new car.

Agreement on the new model comes just over a month after the launch in Britain of the Triumph Acclaim, BL's version of the Honda Ballade which, in its first four weeks on sale, became the country's fifth best-selling car.

The new deal, to be announced in Tokyo by Mr Ray Horrocks, chairman of BL Cars, appears to involve much greater integration of the two companies' operations.

Although the Acclaim is assembled at BL's Cowley plant near Oxford, its design is little changed from the original Honda model. BL said yesterday that the latest stage in collaboration involved "the co-development of an important new car with BL and Honda as equal partners on design, development and manufacture".

It was unclear last night whether the new car would be manufactured in the United Kingdom or Japan, or in both countries simultaneously. BL also declined to say which, if any, of its current models would be replaced.

Sir Michael Edwardes, BL chairman, has said previously that there was scope for further collaboration with Honda with both companies aware of the attractiveness of pooling development costs.

In a letter to *The Times* last month, Mr Kiyoshi Kawashima, Honda's president, expressed his company's belief in international cooperation. "In some highly complex industries the talents of a range of countries will be progressively harnessed to design and produce products which serve the environmental needs of our times. The prosperity of Japan, Britain and the West will be determined by how realistically we face the need for change."

BL executives have been negotiating with Honda ever since the conclusion of the Acclaim deal. The car, which is proving particularly successful in the important fleet market, has been regarded by the United Kingdom industry as a "stop gap" model before the introduction in 1983 of the LC 10 range of medium-sized cars.

With the LC 10 range, BL will cover most of the popular sectors of the car market apart from the sports car segment, which it abandoned following the demise of MG and the ending of Triumph TR7 production.

TUC attacks oil sell-off plan

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Trade union leaders yesterday joined the controversy over the Government's plans for selling off the oil production interests of the British National Oil Corporation and disposin gof the oil activites of the Brtsh Gas Corporaton

Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC led the headlong clash wth Mr Nigel Lawson, the Energy Secretary, at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council.

Mr Murray underlined the TUC's strong opposition to the planed disposal which is likely to yield an estimated £2,000m and told Mr Lawson that the TUC would raise the issue again at a future meeting of the council.

Mr Murray attacked the Government for seeking to dispose of the nation's wealth producing assets at a knockdown price which, he claimed would enable the City to make a further killing as it had with selling shares in Cable and Wirless.

The TUC also criticized the Government's failure to secure the construction of an integrated gas gathering pipeline for the northern North Sea which, it claimed would lead to the wasteful flaring of gas and deprive the petrochemical industry of valuable feed stock material.

The TUC's assault predictably drew little support from industrialists, and Mr Lawson defended the Government's plans.

It was not the Government's intentionhe said, to sell public assets at knockdown prices nor would the Government float any share issue to the public at a time when "market conditions were stupid."

The primary purpose, he continued was not to relieve pressure on the public sector borrowing requirement — although a share issue would help — and Mr Lawson stressed that the Government was talking about a sale of the majority of the production interests of the BNOC which presently represented 7 per cent of North Sea total production.

The state would continue to control the oil trading activities of the Corporation and would also retain powers to control the flaring of gas, production levels and overall supervision of all activities

Financial Editor, page 17

Japan study on trade surcharge

Tokyo, Nov 11.—Japan's Finance Ministry is studying the possible introduction of a surcharge to correct big trade imbalances with the United States and Western Europe.

The plan may be submitted to a special cabinet council meeting, probably next Tuesday, to discuss measures to ease trade friction by reducing Japan's growing trade surplus.

The plan envisages a half-yearly survey of rises in exports by various Japanese industries over the past year. A 10 per cent surcharge would be imposed on industries with rates of increase exceeding the average.

A tentative estimate shows that exports of industries to which the surcharge may be applied totalled 9,000,000m yen (£21,000m) in the first half of this financial year starting April, and are expected to reach 20,000,000m yen for the whole year.

On this basis, a 10 per cent surcharge will produce tax income of 2,000,000m yen in this financial year.

Other ministries and industry oppose the plan.

☐ Rising imports of Japanese light commercial vehicles will be the main issue at a meeting in London on November 24 between officials of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

☐ Japan has asked Washington to investigate alleged discrimination against the Japanese computer maker, Fujitsu, which claims it was unfairly treated when it bid recently for a contract for an optical fibres communications system linking Boston, New York and Washington.—Reuter.

Reagan tax cut a 'Trojan horse'

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 11

A controversy has arisen here over remarks attributed to Mr David Stockman, the President's budget director, that the Reagan tax cut is acually a "Trojan horse" designed to help rich people, not the poor or middle classes.

Mr Stockman is quoted in the December issue of *Atlantic Monthly* magazine saying that the Reagan administration deliberately disguised the real intent of its tax programme in order to push it through an unsuspecting Congress.

President Reagan was asked at his news conference on Tuesday to comment on the article but he declined, saying he would have to check with Mr Stockman. He vigorously defended the tax cut, however.

Meanwhile Congressional Democrats, who have long contended Mr Reagan's tax cut is a rich man's plan, seized upon the remarks and demanded an explanation.

Senator Ernest Hollings the South Carolina Democrat who has announced his intention to seek his party's Presidential nomination, described Mr Stockman as "the best off-Broadway show we have ever had".



Stockman: "help-the-rich scheme disguised".

In the article, Mr Stockman is quoted as saying the administration disguised his controversial tax cut as a new "supply-side economic theory" which it promoted as the solution to everyone's problems. In fact, he said, the tax cut was a veiled version of traditional Republican "trickle-down" economies intended to aid the wealthiest citizens in the hope that the resulting benefits will move through the entire economy triggering a business boom.

"It is kind of hard to sell trickle-down, so the supply-side formula was the only way to get our tax policy. Supply-side is trickle-down", Mr Stockman was quoted as saying.

After the Reagan news conference, the White House issued a formal statement denouncing the article as "wrong and grossly misleading".

The article quoted Mr Stockman as being convinced that the Reagan programme had failed.

"By early April, I began to realize the economic theory behind the President's programme was not working. While it was winning in the political arena, the plan was losing on Wall Street", Mr Stockman was reported as saying.

Industry urges early electricity review

By Our Industrial Editor

Britain's electricity industry is being encouraged to speed up bulk supply tariff changes to help energy intensive industries such as, steel, chemicals and paper and board.

The continuing wide differentials between prices paid by United Kingdom industrial electricity consumers compared with those charged in several other European countries were highlighted yesterday in the latest detailed survey produced by the energy task force set up by the National Economic Development Council.

It disclosed that bulk users of electricity were paying up to 28 per cent more than their French competitors and up to 25 per cent more than their rivals in Germany. Industries in Italy also enjoy electricity price advantages.

The report was considered at yesterday's meeting of the NEDC and provided the Government with encouraging evidence that, with the exception of electricity, prices for gas, coal and oil have moved much more into line with European prices.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, saw the report as demonstrating that British industry did not face any general energy price problem in competing with Europe, although he did acknowledge problems caused by electricity price disparities.

Industry leaders are anxious to become involved in discussions over the changes in the bulk supply tariff which is effectively the wholesale price at which the Central Electricity Generating Board sells power to area boards.

At yesterday's meeting they called for a detailed study into the United Kingdom tariff structure and the reasons why the United Kingdom was not competitive.

The Electricity Council together with area boards and the CEGB were instructed several months ago to carry out a review of the bulk tariff.

Mr Lawson gave a hint yesterday to the NEDC that some improvements were likely but said: "It would be unrealistic to expect large price reductions given the costs the industry faces. But I hope it may be possible for something to be done."

Energy costs, page 17

THF eyes Madrid Ritz

By Derek Harris and Baron Phillips

Trusthouse Forte, Britain's biggest hotels group headed by Sir Charles Forte, its executive chairman, is in talks over the possible purchase of the Ritz Hotel in Madrid. The talks are part of efforts involving leading hotels in Europe and North America aimed at expanding THF's international hotels presence.

The Madrid Ritz, widely regarded as the city's leading hotel, was built early this century in *belle epoque* style by a group of Spanish aristocrats, taking advice from Cesar Ritz, the Swiss hotelier. It has 156 rooms and faces the Prado Museum. It also has a reputation for exclusiveness: not even national parliament members, located nearby, get in without wearing a tie.

☐ Debenham & Freebody's former building in London's Wigmore Street has been acquired by London & Leeds Investments, the property arm of the Ladbroke group, for £6.5m cash.

London & Leeds has acquired planning permission to redevelop the Edwardian building and create 60,000 sq ft of offices, about 12 apartments, 6,000 sq ft of retail units together with a further 17,000 sq ft space at basement level.

Newsprint capacity rising

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Newsprint production capacity in Sweden, one of the main suppliers to United Kingdom newspapers, is expected to increase from its present level of 1.6 million tonnes to almost 2 million tonnes a year by 1985, according to the Swedish Pulp and Paper Association.

Mr Bo Wergens, the association's director general, said in London yesterday that despite current overcapacity in newsprint throughout the world, new machines would continue to be brought on stream in Sweden in the next few years to match the long-term trend towards increasing international demand.

At the same time, the outlook for new investment in machinery for the production of market pulp was not encouraging. Low profitability and high interest rates were deterring investors, he said.

"Yet there is reason to believe that, in the medium term, an upturn in international economy will create an increased demand for market pulp."

Paper consumption throughout Europe, including the Nordic countries, is expected to be slightly lower this year than the 1980 figure of about 44 million tonnes, rising to about 45 million tonnes next year.

Stock Markets

FT Index 508.2 up 5.5
FT Gilts 62.66 up 0.32
FT All Share 305.48 up 1.52
Bargains 16,362

Sterling

$ 1.8790 up 1.20 cents
Index 89.2 up 0.1
New York $1.8820

Dollar

Index 107.0 down 0.5
DM 2.2145 down 185 pts

Gold

$412.75 down $2.25
New York $410.80

Money

3 mth sterling 15 1/16-15 3/16
3 mth Euro $ 13 3/4-14
6 mth Euro $ 13 7/8-14 1/8

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Allied Lon Prop	13p to 85p
British Sugar	15p to 380p
Chubb	9p to 94p
De La Rue	25p to 630p
Electrocomps	12p to 135p
Gen Acc	10p to 352p
GEC	16p to 747p
Lasmo	15p to 497p
Mercantile Hse	15p to 485p
Martin RP	30p to 375p
M&G Group	14p to 285p
Schroders	15p to 415p
Unigate	9p to 99p
Wolsey Hughes	30p to 270p

Falls

Bracken Mines	8p to 130p
Davies&Newman	6p to 69p
Kinross	22p to 658p
Letlie	6p to 127p
Northgate Explor	15p to 290p
Polly Peck	12p to 353p
Ranger Oil	20p to 460p
RTZ	7p to 467p
Saugers	5p to 34p
Sentrust	14p to 412p
UC Invest	8p to 658p
Western Areas	9p to 231p
W Rand Cons	6p to 130p
Whitbread 'A'	6p to 152p

Date set for Playboy sale

The £17m sale of Playboy's London casinos to Trident Television should be completed within three to four weeks, Mr Marvin Huston, executive vice-president said at the annual meeting in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

However Trident regarded this time scale as highly optimistic. Trident is obliged to issue a Class 1 circular to its shareholders because of the size of the proposed purchase, and this will require inclusion of information in preparation for the annual accounts. Trident, whose financial year ends on September 30 generally does not produce its accounts until late January.

Public pension reform urged

Public sector pension schemes could be brought into the private sector as a way of easing the increasing burden of taxation placed on working members of the community by index-linked pension for civil servants, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, said at the National Association of Pension Funds autumn conference.

Civil servants should be required to buy into an approved private pension scheme, he said.

☐ Statoil, Norway's state oil company, has followed the British National Oil Corporation and proposed increases ranging upward from $1.50 a barrel for its crude oil from the North Sea.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

EMS 'worth consideration'

British participation in the joint float mechanism of the European Monetary System deserved serious consideration, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during the debate on the Government's economic policy.

Joining the system would itself do nothing to secure exchange rate stability and would not obviate the need for action on interest rates or fiscal policy, but it might provide an alternative framework of discipline, he said.

Clarks plants may close

C. & J. Clark, the Somerset shoe company, has said that as many as 1,000 of its 8,000 workforce could face redundancy.

Mr Lance Clark, the managing director, has drawn up a survival plan for the company, which he said could involve the closure of two of the company's factories. Clarks has 13 plants throughout the West Country and one in Dundalk in the Republic of Ireland.

Mr Clark said that the company was producing 20 per cent more shoes than it could sell. Because of the recession people were buying fewer shoes and choosing cheaper brands, mainly imported.

☐ Cognac brandy sales dropped 16.5 per cent in Britain on annual comparison in the French industry's trading year to the end of August. The number of bottles imported dropped to 14.6m.

☐ Shell became the last of the big petrol suppliers yesterday to announce a price rise equivalent to about 4p a gallon. Four-star prices in most areas are expected to rise to between £1.70 and £1.72.

Midland's new gold card

Midland Bank is to offer customers a new prestige travel and entertainment card from next spring. The gold Mastercard is aimed at businessmen and international travellers earning about £20,000 a year or more, and will have no spending limit. Cardholders will pay a £40 annual subscription and will receive an automatic £7,500 overdraft facility at preferential rates and special benefits at Thomas Cook offices.

No early tax system change

Radical changes in the tax system, such as self-assessment and local income tax could not be introduced before 1987, Sir Lawrence Airey, chairman of the board of Inland Revenue told a Commons select committee yesterday.

The Inland Revenue is at present testing mainframe computers for full computerization of PAYE and would soon begin to install computerized systems in certain offices.

Sir Lawrence said computerization would lead to a cut in 6,800 jobs dealing with PAYE.

Bull market forecast

"The incredible height of real interest rates, coupled with a reasonably favourable outlook for inflation, suggests very strongly that there will be a major bull market in bonds and a fall in interest rates in the United Kingdom," Mr Gordon Pepper, a senior partner of W. Greenwell, the stockbrokers, told the Society of Investment Analysts yesterday.

But Mr Pepper said that what looked like a promising outlook domestically could yet be upset by developments in the United States.

He suggested that the early years of the Reagan Administration could follow a pattern similar to that of the Thatcher Government.

If that were the case, the United Kingdom gilt edged market would tend to spurt and sputter.

TODAY

Seamen's pay talks resume.

Index of industrial production (September provisional figures); finished steel consumption and stock changes (third quarter provisional); usable steel production (October).

European League for Economic Cooperation conference opens in London to urge British membership of the European Monetary System.

Companies reporting their results today include: Aquascutum, British Commonwealth Shipping, East Midlands Allied Press, Staveley Industries (all half yearly); Ultramar (third quarter).

IN BRIEF

Mobil can move on offer for Marathon

A United States Federal Court judge yesterday restarted the clock on Mobil's $5,100m (£2,200m) bid to take over Marathon Oil.

In a compromise ruling, he ordered that Mobil cannot take up any shares under its $85-a-share offer for 40 million Marathon shares until he decides on a Marathon motion for a preliminary injunction against the Mobil offer. A hearing on that is due next Tuesday.

However, in the meantime, the judge said, "both sides can perform as if there had been no restraining order." That means Mobil can solicit for, and Marathon against, tenders of Marathon stock under the offer. Such conduct had been previously been barred by the court.

Marathon said it is taking up the full $5,000m credit line it has agreed with a group of banks and is arranging to buy as much as $2,000m worth of its own stock.

Spanish Yamaha

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Philips jobs to go

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Ship orders fall

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Oil royalty raised

☐ Energy companies will have to pay a royalty of 32 per cent on oil and gas produced in West Germany from next January. The present level is 22 per cent.

Tougher stance on textile quotas

By Rupert Morris

The Government ran into heavy criticism yesterday over its commitment to a renegotiated Multi-Fibre Arrangement, intended to restrict textile imports into the European Community.

Evidence by Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State for Trade, to the Select Committee for Trade and Industry, was seen by some observers as a hardening of the Governemtn's protectionist attitude, out of line with the general flow of its economic policy.

Mr Rees told the committee yesterday that the Government wished to return to "something in line with the 1980 position" on import quotas, with a grrowth limit closely related to consumption levels, of about 1 per cent.

He said that the previous day's discussion of the Council of Ministers in Brussels had made a little progress, and had helped to focus on the main issues.

The British textile industry had seen the loss of 150,000 jobs over the past 18 months and renegotiations of the management was regarded by the Government as a very sensitive and important political issue.

But Mr Rees's reference t 1980 quota levels was seen by the World Development Movement as a move towards higher restrictions that would discriminate against developing countries.

"We are particularly concerned that this will hit the poorest countries hardest because they have been the least able to fulfil their entitlements", the movement said in a statement.

Meanwhile the Trade Policy Research Centre, an independent entrepreneurial study group, said in a report that developing countries had only a 10 per cent share of industrialized coutries' textile and clothing markets, and the arrangement was almost an irrelevant instrument which increased trade regulations.

The policy outlined by Mr Ress would also result in higher clothes prices, according to consumers in the European Community Group. The group said that an effective cut in imports from developing countries would particularly hit children's clothing.

£30m facelift plan for Gloucester dockland

By Our Correspondent

A £30m scheme to revitalize Gloucester's decaying dockland was launched yesterday by Sir Frank Price, British Waterways Board Chairman.

Redevelopment plans which could see the re-birth of the crumbling docks before the end of the decade include converting early nineteenth-century grain warehouses into housing, new facilities for leisure boating, a luxury hotel and public amenities.

The ambitious project is being undertaken by Britannia (Cheltenham) who are to be granted a long lease of the dock area. The property company is heading a consortium and investment is to be raised among small groups.

Hailed as unprecedented revitalization for Gloucester, Britannia's scheme is in line with Sir Frank's own dreams for the decrepit docks complex — a relic of the industrial revolution.

As well as providing new jobs in the city, the plan will conserve the architectural heritage of the docks and bring new life to its long redundant warehouses. Fourteen historic warehouses, all dating from the early nineteenth century, will be preserved and converted for new uses.

One gaunt redbrick building, the 160-year-old North Warehouse, is being surveyed by the Government's Property Services Agency with a view to converting it into a Crown Court. And another, the Llanthony Warehouse, is being considered by the Waterways Board for conversion into a national waterways museum.

"We are excited by the proposals and the fact that we have found a company ready to take up the challenge. "The scheme will add an attractive dynamic dimension to Gloucester allowing its town centre to expand", Sir Frank said.

At the heart of the development, planned for completion over the next five to seven years, is a residential island to be created by a new stretch of water. Warehouses are to be converted into a total of 135 flats and new town houses will be grouped around the historic mariner's church.

Preliminary agreement has already been reached with the Mogford Hotel group for a 70-bedroom luxury hotel.

Mr Cyril Thomas, Britannia's chairman and managing director, said: "The theme of the waterways will never be forgotten. It is central to the whole project".

He said broad agreement had already been reached with Gloucester City Council and building and conversion work could start late next year.

Foreign competition is falling but so are the orders

Little comfort for furniture makers

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Britain's beleaguered furniture manufacturers, hit by the worst sales slump for 30 years, found only a few strands of comfort as 350 of them gathered in Birmingham yesterday for the annual international furniture show. Scandinavian makers, important exporters to Britain for many years had taken fewer stands and competition from the United States was reported to have ebbed now that sterling is not so strong against the dollar.

Sales of beds and mattresses were reported to be holding up and those of upholstered furniture were possibly better than the industry average with fears of substantial cost increases due to tighter fire regulations mostly proving to be unfounded.

Otherwise prospects looked dreary. Deliveries to shops and forward orders to manufacturers have been down this year compared with 1980, itself a bad year. In the three months to the end of August, on seasonally adjusted estimates, deliveries were 9.5 per cent down on the same period last year, although there was a slight improvemnet on the previous three months of this year.

Orders on hand in August were 8.8 per cent down on the same month last year and showed a 4 per cent decline on July this year.

Redundancies have been mounting despite a 15 per cent cut in the industry's workforce to 65,000 last year when 130 manufacturers went out of business.

This is the manufacturers' busiest time, and short-time working has fallen, but the problem is expected to return in the new year.

Perring: No change in prospects

Mr Malcolm Perring, marketing director of the Perrings retail furnishing chain and chairman of the Furniture Information Council, sees no real change in the sales prospects until consumers are confident of the future, he said. He said: "When that happens it could unlock some of the spending power in savings and that could help sales of bigger items".

That means the cabinet sector — all-wood furniture such as dining suites — is under most pressure because consumers can easily delay buying replacements.

Even the growth of self-assembly furniture in this sector has been trimmed but it still appears to be taking an increasing share of the remaining market. Self-assembly furniture is expected by the middle of this decade to account for 20 per cent or more of sales in some sectors, with a growing popularity in kitchen and bedroom furniture.

More expensive reproduction furniture sales are still relatively good, but the growth in the more popular price ranges has been checked.

Difficulties in the cabinet sector have been a key factor behind some recent poor company results. Pre-tax profits of the Nottingham-based Stag Furniture Holdings plunged more than half last year, then declined 16 per cent in the first half this year on annual comparison even though the company was maintianing market share.

Gomme Holdings, the G-Plan furniture-maker based in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, had a 25 per cent drop in turnover in the year to the end of July.

A weakness of the industry has been its fragmentation into comparatively small production units. There are still more than 1,200 manufacturers but larger units are emerging, the latest formed by Parker Knoll — mainly in upholstery, and with high returns for the industry — which has taken over B. & I. Nathan, strong in the cabinet sector. A number of companies are expected to absorb most of PMA Holdings, the latest company to be in the receiver's hands with 1,000 jobs at risk.

Another example is Silentnight, the Lancashire-based group which started in bedding but has diversified into the cabinet sector, self-assembly furniture and specialist lines.

Silentnight cut its workforce by 11 per cent to 3,000 last year but since then there has been only minimal short-time working and in the six months to August sales rose from £30m to £..m. Record profits are being forecast for the full year.

Furniture prices have been rising less than the increase in the Retail Price Index as manufacturers an retailers have kept down profit margins, according to Mr Perring. But there were expectations at Birmingham that makers of foam for upholstered furniture may increase prices by up to 20 per cent, adding 1 to 2 per cent to the final cost.

HOW MANUFACTURERS HAVE FARED

Indices (1975=100) seasonally adjusted

	Deliveries	Orders
1980		
January	104	69
February	101	66
March	99	63
April	93	59
May	90	56
June	97	55
July	91	54
August	93	57
September	91	58
October	90	57
November	88	52
December	86	49
1981		
January	92	54
February	88	52
March	84	49
April	85	46
May	82	54
June	86	53
July	84	54
August (prov'l)	83	52

Source: Department of Industry

ICL picked for office project

By Bill Johnstone

The Government has named three more British companies to take part in its "office of the future" project.

ICL, Plessey and Data Recall have had their projects approved by the Department of Industry. Plessey Office Systems will install its equipment at the Nottinghamshire County Council while ICL and Data Recall will supply separate systems to the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). Each project is expected to cost the government about £250,000.

The Government started the project earlier in the year to encourage the use of electronic office equipment within the public sector. Eleven manufacturers have already been identified as suitable suppliers of such equipment.

Six of the 11 approved suppliers have been given a site.

Give social training, firms urged

By Adrienne Gleeson

Employers should be offered tax incentives to encourage them to invest in workforce training. They should, moreover, be prepared to make their training facilities more widely available, to meet social as opposed to work-related needs in the community.

These are two of the recommendations in a submission from the Institute of Personnel Management to the Manpower Services Commission, which makes many controversial suggestions for reform of the present systems of education and training.

The institute suggests:

☐ that individuals (and their unions) should be prepared to accept lower pay while they undergo training or retraining;

☐ that individuals should be prevented from practising their skills, in employment or in the community at large, unless they can demonstrate that they have reached an agreed level of competence (as opposed to undergoing a period of training) in those skills;

☐ that alternative curricula, more relevant to the needs and abilities of the majority of children, should be developed in the schools;

☐ that mandatory administration and inspection duties should be withdrawn from the training boards; and, last but not least,

☐ that the central Manpower Services Commission organization could be significantly reduced in size, to permit a build-up of new local organizations without any need for extra funding.

The Institute's position is based on the premise, already developed in other publications, that training ought and will be a continuous process from now on — partly because people need to retrain to cope with the effects of technological and social change on their existing jobs, and partly because they are likely to make at least one job switch in the course of their careers.

The Institute sees scope for involving local careers people, educational authorities and employers in putting together a package of facilities for such training, which would be designed to develop not only specific "work-related" skills, but also more general "social" and "vocational" training.

So it recommends, for instance, that employers should automatically allow for the cost of proposed capital expenditure; that they should make resources available for "social" training, but should be paid for doing so out of national funds; and that employees should be able to apply for jobs at any age and should have access to training at any level of skills and achievement.

The Institute recommends the establishment of a new network of local strategic manpower and training units, probably to be developed from existing MSC units, but undertaking a much broader function in initiating and developing local strategies.

Business appointments

Sandeman chairman of Seagram

Mr Timothy Sandeman is the new chairman of Seagram UK.

Mr Christopher Birks has joined the British Technology Group as deputy director (operations electronics and information technology).

Mr C. McHugh has been appointed an executive director of Ulster Investment Bank.

Mr John Collinge and Mr Peter Whelan have become directors of Parker Richardson Films and Television of Birmingham. Mr Collinge and Mr H. Broomhall become directors of Heronview II, the computer consultancy and distribution company.

Mr David J. Archer has been appointed director and general manager of Standard and Pochin. He was formerly production director.

Mr Robert C. Olney, managing director of 3M United Kingdom, has been appointed chairman and managing director of the company, replacing Mr M. J. Monteiro who has resigned as chairman but will remain a member of the board.

Mr Josef L. Kuhn, vice president, European operations, 3M Company, joins the board.

Mr Stuart Elliot has been appointed managing director of Leslie & Godwin (UK).

Mr Nick Mountford has joined the board of Stanley D. Dickson.

Mr R. Alan Mackay, financial controller and treasurer, has been appointed to the board of Dalgety Spillers.

Mr J. F. Nash has become a director of Meggitt Holdings.

Mr Kenneth Klinker has been appointed commercial director of SAFT (UK), part of Compagnie Generale d'Electricite of France.

Sandeman and Olney

Mr T. Garner is the new deputy chairman of Fairclough Construction Group.

Mr Peter Taylor has been appointed to the board of Sheraton Securities International.

Mr Stuart T. Graham, director and group chief executive of the Midland Bank has joined the board of Allied-Lyons. Mr Richard G. Martin, chairman of Ind Coope and a director of Allied Breweries (UK) has joined the Allied-Lyons board.

Dr J. W. Edington has been elected a director of Alcan International laboratories.

Mr P. M. Wright has been appointed to the board of Aurora Holdings.

Mr C. R. Menzies who joined the Fenner Group as director — special projects on January 1 has joined the board of J. H. Fenner & Co (Power Transmission).

Mr Colin Carr has been made a director of IML Air Cargo.

Mr Stewart S. Crabb has been appointed chairman of Sogomana Group in succession to Mr Kenneth Maclellan who has resigned. He will however remain a member of the board.

Mr A. J. Dyer, sponsored by Carreras Rothmans and Mr S. O. Forrest, sponsored by Lucas Industries have been elected directors of Employment Conditions Abroad.

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The ambitious project is being undertaken by Britannia (Cheltenham) who are to be granted a long lease of the dock area. The property company is heading a consortium and investment is to be raised among small groups.

Hailed as unprecedented revitalization for Gloucester, Britannia's scheme is in line with Sir Frank's own dreams for the decrepit docks complex — a relic of the industrial revolution.

As well as providing new jobs in the city, the plan will conserve the architectural heritage of the docks and bring new life to its long redundant warehouses. Fourteen historic warehouses, all dating from the early nineteenth century, will be preserved and converted for new uses.

One gaunt redbrick building, the 160-year-old North Warehouse, is being surveyed by the Government's Property Services Agency with a view to converting it into a Crown Court. And another, the Llanthony Warehouse, is being considered by the Waterways Board for conversion into a national waterways museum.

"We are excited by the proposals and the fact that we have found a company ready to take up the challenge. "The scheme will add an attractive dynamic dimension, to Gloucester allowing its town centre to expand", Sir Frank said.

At the heart of the development, planned for completion over the next five to seven years, is a residential island to be created by a new stretch of water. Warehouses are to be converted into a total of 135 flats and new town houses will be grouped around the historic mariner's church.

Preliminary agreement has already been reached with the Mogford Hotel group for a 70-bedroom luxury hotel.

Mr Cyril Thomas, Britannia's chairman and managing director, said: "The theme of the waterways will never be forgotten. It is central to the whole project".

He said broad agreement had already been reached with Gloucester City Council and building and conversion work could start late next year.

Foreign competition is falling but so are the orders

Little comfort for furniture makers

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Britain's beleaguered furniture manufacturers, hit by the worst sales slump for 30 years, found only a few strands of comfort as 350 of them gathered in Birmingham yesterday for the annual international furniture show. Scandinavian makers, important exporters to Britain for many years had taken fewer stands and competition from the United States was reported to have ebbed now that sterling is not so strong against the dollar.

Sales of beds and mattresses were reported to be holding up and those of upholstered furniture were possibly better than the industry average with fears of substantial cost increases due to tighter fire regulations mostly proving to be unfounded.

Otherwise prospects looked dreary. Deliveries to shops and forward orders to manufacturers have been down this year compared with 1980, itself a bad year. In the three months to the end of August, on seasonally adjusted estimates, deliveries were 9.5 per cent down on the same period last year, although there was a slight improvemnet on the previous three months of this year.

Orders on hand in August were 8.8 per cent down on the same month last year and showed a 4 per cent decline on July this year.

Redundancies have been mounting despite a 15 per cent cut in the industry's workforce to 65,000 last year when 130 manufacturers went out of business.

This is the manufacturers' busiest time, and short-time working has fallen, but the problem is expected to return in the new year.

Perring: No change in prospects

Mr Malcolm Perring, marketing director of the Perrings retail furnishing chain and chairman of the Furniture Information Council, sees no real change in the sales prospects until consumers are confident of the future, he said. He said: "When that happens it could unlock some of the spending power in savings and that could help sales of bigger items".

That means the cabinet sector — all-wood furniture such as dining suites — is under most pressure because consumers can easily delay buying replacements.

Even the growth of self-assembly furniture in this sector has been trimmed but it still appears to be taking an increasing share of the remaining market. Self-assembly furniture is expected by the middle of this decade to account for 20 per cent or more of sales in some sectors, with a growing popularity in kitchen and bedroom furniture.

More expensive reproduction furniture sales are still relatively good, but the growth in the more popular price ranges has been checked.

Difficulties in the cabinet sector have been a key factor behind some recent poor company results. Pre-tax profits of the Nottingham-based Stag Furniture Holdings plunged more than half last year, then declined 16 per cent in the first half this year on annual comparison even though the company was maintianing market share.

Gomme Holdings, the G-Plan furniture-maker based in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, had a 25 per cent drop in turnover in the year to the end of July.

A weakness of the industry has been its fragmentation into comparatively small production units. There are still more than 1,200 manufacturers but larger units are emerging, the latest formed by Parker Knoll — mainly in upholstery, and with high returns for the industry — which has taken over B. & I. Nathan, strong in the cabinet sector. A number of companies are expected to absorb most of PMA Holdings, the latest company to be in the receiver's hands with 1,000 jobs at risk.

Another example is Silentnight, the Lancashire-based group which started in bedding but has diversified into the cabinet sector, self-assembly furniture and specialist lines

Silentnight cut its workforce by 11 per cent to 3,000 last year but since then there has been only minimal short-time working and in the six months to August sales rose from £30m to £35m. Record profits are being forecast for the full year.

Furniture prices have been rising less than the increase in the Retail Price Index as manufacturers an retailers have kept down profit margins, according to Mr Perring. But there were expectations at Birmingham that makers of foam for upholstered furniture may increase prices by up to 20 per cent, adding 1 to 2 per cent to the final cost.

HOW MANUFACTURERS HAVE FARED

Indices (1975=100) seasonally adjusted

	Deliveries	Orders
1980		
January	104	69
February	101	66
March	99	63
April	93	59
May	90	56
June	97	55
July	91	54
August	93	57
September	91	58
October	90	57
November	88	52
December	86	49
1981		
January	92	54
February	88	52
March	84	49
April	85	46
May	82	54
June	88	53
July	84	54
August (prov'l)	83	52

Source: Department of Industry

ICL picked for office project

By Bill Johnstone

The Government has named three more British companies to take part in its "office of the future" project.

ICL, Plessey and Data Recall have had their projects approved by the Department of Industry. Plessey Office Systems will install its equipment at the Nottinghamshire County Council while ICL and Data Recall will supply separate systems to the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). Each project is expected to cost the government about £250,000.

The Government started the project earlier in the year to encourage the use of electronic office equipment within the public sector. Eleven manufacturers have already been identified as suitable suppliers of such equipment.

Six of the 11 approved suppliers have been given a site.

Give social training, firms urged

By Adrienne Gleeson

Employers should be offered tax incentives to encourage them to invest in workforce training. They should, moreover, be prepared to make their training facilities more widely available, to meet social as opposed to work-related needs in the community.

These are two of the recommendations in a submission from the Institute of Personnel Management to the Manpower Services Commission, which makes many controversial suggestions for reform of the present systems of education and training.

The institute suggests:

☐ that individuals (and their unions) should be prepared to accept lower pay while they undergo training or retraining;

☐ that individuals should be prevented from practising their skills, in employment or in the community at large, unless they can demonstrate that they have reached an agreed level of competence (as opposed to undergoing a period of training) in those skills;

☐ that alternative curricula, more relevant to the needs and abilities of the majority of children, should be developed in the schools;

☐ that mandatory administration and inspection duties should be withdrawn from the training boards; and, last but not least,

☐ that the central Manpower Services Commission organization could be significantly reduced in size, to permit a build-up of new local organizations without any need for extra funding.

The Institute's position is based on the premise, already developed in other publications, that training ought and will be a continuous process from now on — partly because people need to retrain to cope with the effects of technological and social change on their existing jobs, and partly because they are likely to make at least one job switch in the course of their careers.

The Institute sees scope for involving local careers people, educational authorities and employers in putting together a package of facilities for such training, which would be designed to develop not only specific "work-related" skills, but also more general "social" and "vocational" training.

So it recommends, for instance, that employers should automatically allow for the cost of proposed capital expenditure; that they should make resources available for "social" training, but should be paid for doing so out of national funds; and that employees should be able to apply for jobs at any age and should have access to training at any level of skills and achievement.

The Institute recommends the establishment of a new network of local strategic manpower and training units, probably to be developed from existing MSC units, but undertaking a much broader function in initiating and developing local strategies.

Business appointments

Sandeman chairman of Seagram

Mr Timothy Sandeman is the new chairman of Seagram UK.

Mr Christopher Birks has joined the British Technology Group as deputy director (operations electronics and information technology).

Mr C. McHugh has been appointed an executive director of Ulster Investment Bank.

Mr John Collinge and Mr Peter Whelan have become directors of Parker Richardson Films and Television of Birmingham. Mr. Collinge and Mr H. Broomhall become directors of Heronview II, the computer consultancy and distribution company.

Mr David J. Archer has been appointed director and general manager of Standard and Pochin. He was formerly production director.

Mr Robert C. Olney, managing director of 3M United Kingdom, has been appointed chairman and managing director of the company, replacing Mr M. J. Monteiro who has resigned as chairman but will remain a member of the board.

Mr Josef L. Kuhn, vice president, European operations, 3M Company, joins the board.

Mr Stuart Elliot has been appointed managing director of Leslie & Godwin (UK).

Mr Nick Mountford has joined the board of Stanley D. Dickson.

Mr R. Alan Mackay, financial controller and treasuror, has been appointed to the board of Dalgety Spillers.

Mr J. F. Nash has become a director of Meggitt Holdings.

Mr Kenneth Klinker has been appointed commercial director of



Sandeman and Olney

SAFT (UK), part of Compagnie Generale d'Electricite of France.

Mr T. Garner is the new deputy chairman of Fairclough Construction Group.

Mr Peter Taylor has been appointed, to the board of Sheraton Securities International.

Mr Stuart T. Graham, director and group chief executive of the Midland Bank has joined the board of Allied-Lyons. Mr Richard G. Martin, chairman of Ind Coope and a director of Allied Breweries (UK) has joined the Allied-Lyons board.

Dr J. W. Edington has been elected a director of Alcan International laboratories.

Mr P. M. Wright has been appointed to the board of Aurora Holdings.

Mr G. R. Menzies who joined the Fenner Group as director — special projects on January 1, has joined the board of J. H. Fenner & Co (Power Transmission).

Mr Colin Carr has been made a director of IML Air Cargo.

Mr Stewart S. Crabb has been appointed chairman of Sogomans Group in succession to Mr Kenneth MacIellan who has resigned. He wil however remain a member of the board.

Mr A. J. Dyer, sponsored by Carreras Rothmans and Mr S. O. Forrest, sponsored by Lucas Industries have been elected directors of Employment Conditions Abroad.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Overseas momentum at ABF

The overseas operations have made all the running in the first six months at Associated British Foods and now account for over half of group profits which show an increase from £44.2m to £57.9m. The near two thirds rise in the overseas contribution from £19.3m to £31.9m reflects both recovery in the Antipodes and the very strong performance at Premier Milling in South Africa.

At home milling and baking has had to bear some £2m of redundancy and reorganization costs taken above the line and although most of the other manufacturing operations have done reasonably well, there has been a first half profits setback in the United Kingdom manufacturing division. But on the retail side the success of Fine Fare has more than made up for this, allowing domestic profits to show a £1.1m rise during the period to £26m.

During the second half ABF is quick to point out that comparison will be with a very strong period particularly for the overseas companies while competitive pressures at home are intensifying. The group is still confident of showing some growth, however, over and above the £70.7m in the second half a year ago. With further progress overseas and the possibility of a flour price rise at some stage before Christmas to boost the milling and baking side it is not hard to see profits for the full year rising from £115m to approaching £140m.

Assuming the 16.6 per cent rise in the half-year dividend is carried through to the final, the shares at 155p yield a likely 4.1 per cent and the prospective p/e ratio is about 11½. Judging by the level of capital spending, which may not be far short of £120m this year and should be broadly covered by cash flow, the group is not allowing the arteries to harden, all of which justifies the premium rating.

● *General Accident is continuing to reap the benefits of its more cautious approach to new business during this pronounced downswing in the insurance cycle. Underwriting losses have deteriorated steadily through the year with the overall deficit after nine months up from £21.1m to £35m, but thanks to the strong growth in investment income up by almost 29 per cent to £117.3m, pretax profits are 26 per cent higher at £82.7m.*

The difference with Commercial Union, which reported a quarter drop in profits the day before, lies in its lower exposure to the highly competitive United States market. Unlike CU, GA has not been chasing market share with net premiums in the United States, up by only 5 per cent against CU's 23 per cent, and has in fact been turning down unprofitable business. But even though the operating ratio is some 5 points below CU's at just under 105 per cent American losses have mushroomed from £4.7m to £16.3m.

Also cushioning GA has been the robust performance in the United Kingdom where despite higher expenses last year's loss at the nine-month stage has been transformed into a £5.4m profit.

There are still plenty of weak spots with losses in Canada, Australia and South Africa increasing while the group is getting more pessimistic about the United States and the United Kingdom scene is becoming more vulnerable to competition. But with high cover GA should manage perhaps a 20 per cent increase in the final dividend where the prospective yield after yesterday's 10p rise to 352p is almost 7½ per cent which represents a rather lower premium to the rest of the sector than is usual.

BNOC

Mr Benn's spanner

Mr Tony Benn's threats of renationalization without compensation for any North Sea assets sold by the present Government can only serve to confuse further a situation already entrapped in technical difficulties. None should doubt Mr Nigel Lawson, the new Energy Secretary's resolve to push ahead as rapidly as possible with the sale of both BNOC and British Gas' oil holdings. The critical point for potential buyers, however — and there should be plenty of them in principle — is whether the Government will be able to make a firm offer of sale before another election. The Treasury wants the money as soon as possible. Mr Lawson wants the political victory. But the greater the rush the less the chance of obtaining a fair price for the assets

This particularly applies to the BNOC sale. Mr Philip Shelbourne, BNOC's chairman, wants a sale of 51 per cent of equity primarily to free the Corporation from government interference. The threats of renationalization would suggest the same route, as renationalizing small shareholders would be more contentious than taking back straight asset sales.

The idea of selling off BNOC's share in various fields rather than an equity offer is therefore regaining ground in Treasury circles. The difficulty here, as with the sale of BGC's oil producing assets, is that the operating agreements generally require partners selling out to offer their share to their partners at the best price available. And most the partners concerned in these fields are foreign-based companies. Short of overriding these agreements, the Government will still be faced with the problems first of establishing what the market price is and then of getting round the foreign issue. The sale of BGC's interests in the Wytch Farm onshore oil field, for which parliamentary approval has already been gained, is still a year away. Offshore sales will take longer unless the Government is prepared to sell them on the cheap. The earlier the sale, the more likely it will be that the oil companies get the pickings not the British investor.

F. W. Woolworth

A waiting game

Woolworth's had a series of false dawns and darkest hours, but still the shares managed to rise a ½p to 52½p yesterday on news of pretax profits of £3.4m against £7.1m in the first nine months of the year to next January. Even though £1m came from property disposals, it contrasted with a maiden loss in the first six months, and analysts' hopes of around £2.5m. But seasonal patterns are not necessarily repeatable when profits vanish, and what the third quarter effort portends remains inscrutable. Turnover was, after all, £709m in the nine months, a 13.6 per cent increase, and equally valuably a rise of one or two per cent in volume. Operation Crackdown, designed to stun shoppers with cut prices has informally but not unofficially come and gone, which leaves Woolworth with its basis policy of regaining customers by trading up into more expensive lines which sell most around Christmas. Last year Woolworth made £39.2m before tax in the full year (against £57.25m) but around £32m came in the Christmas quarter.

The impression still is that Woolworth has a long way to go before restoring its high street image. "Do it yourself" is barely profitable, though Woolworth with a wealth of property to sell can afford the most expensive acquisitions. On balance, the City will be pleased to see Woolworth making £30m this year. The 13 per cent yield recognizes last year's interim dividend cut, and pays little attention to rumbling rumour of the United States parent either getting a grip or selling out.

● *Every good takeover candidate worth its salt produces profits nicely above figures forecast in the heat of battle. So it is with British Sugar with pretax profits for the year to September coming out at £51m against a forecast of some £49m and £34.2m in the comparable 12 months. British Sugar is also pushing up the dividend and the year's total is 35.7p gross a share compared with 28.7p.*

The key to the improvement in British Sugar's profitability is the £150m it has spent in the last five years modernising and enlarging some of its factories. By investing in capital equipment and plant, taking advantage of modern control techniques and retraining the workforce, the group has managed to maintain its normal annual tonnage of beet of 7.5m through 13 factories as against 17 two years ago. To make up a slight shortfall in the amount of sugar actually produced, the group drew on stocks. This had the side effect of borrowings dropping by £31.8m, although a lower level of capital expenditure also played a significant role here.

Despite a touch of market scepticism most gave British Sugar the benefit of the doubt and the shares rose 15p to 380p, a new peak for the year. With a yield of 9.4 per cent, the shares and the results should make Berisford, which bid 335p, think again.

Ten months ago, trawler skippers setting sail for the fishing grounds from the Scottish port of Aberdeen were paying £172 a tonne for their marine diesel oil. For an industry which has been on its beam ends for several years it was a high price to pay to go fishing — the highest in Europe in fact.

Many trawler skippers must have reflected on the irony that he was paying £40 a tonne more for his fuel than his fellow fishermen operating out of the Humber ports of Hull and Grimsby. After all, Aberdeen is the centre of the offshore oil industry, the oil is brought ashore at Peterhead and substantial quantities are refined at Grangemouth.

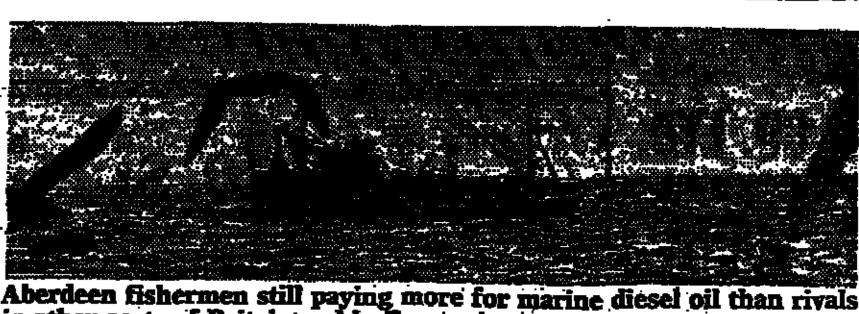
The oil companies claim that it is due to the higher distribution costs involved — a defence which the Scottish fishermen find difficult to swallow.

This curious quirk was identified in the first report of the energy task force, which was established by the National Economic Development Council (NEDC) to look into the growing controversy over disparities between prices paid for energy by major industrial consumers in this country and by their competitors in western Europe.

The Government was forced to take action, and the Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, announced a £168m package to ease the pressure on energy intensive industries in his Budget statement earlier this year.

But the package fell short of what the hard-pressed industries involved had called for. In particular, the Chancellor failed to reduce the £8 a tonne duty on heavy fuel oil.

Nonetheless, the easing of cash limits on British Gas and the pegging of industrial gas prices for 12 months from December last year were of some help. With instructions to the electricity supply authorities to offer more flexible contracts and to introduce a new arrangement for customers able to vary the load at short notice, the package went some way towards easing the problems which had accumulated.



Aberdeen fishermen still paying more for marine diesel oil than rivals in other parts of Britain and in Europe.

Energy costs - easing industry's burden

In the steel industry's case it was estimated that the measures would produce savings of between £15m and £20m in the course of this year, though the steelmen calculated that a further £125m reduction would be necessary to match European prices.

The task force has since been looking at the extent to which the disparities have been maintained or narrowed and its latest report considered by the NEDC at its meeting yesterday will give much comfort to ministers, the energy suppliers and to the big industrial consumers. But not so the Scottish fishermen or indeed industrial users of electricity.

First the fishermen: the Aberdeen skipper is still paying more than his rivals in other parts of the United Kingdom and in Europe. His marine diesel oil price increased since the begining of the year to £193 a tonne in October compared with £170 at Lowestoft and Fleetwood and £166 on the Humber.

In West Germany, trawlers bunkering for a deep sea trip were paying £178.05 a tonne for their fuel and the inshore skippers were paying £187.75 a tonne during October.

The fishermen are not happy, but the task force is able to report more favourably on the bulk energy consumers who account for half of electricity consumption and a substantial proportion of gas.

In the case of heavy fuel oil, which caused so much acrimony last winter, the wide discrepancies between United Kingdom and EEC prices have not reemerged, although tax-inclusive prices are still cheaper to continental consumers than in the United Kingdom by a margin of about 5 per cent on average.

Both coal and foundry coke prices are now more or less in line with prices prevailing in Europe — with the exception of France, where foundry coke prices are £17 a tonne cheaper than in the United Kingdom. European price increases and a £10 a tonne price cut made during the summer by National Smokeless Fuels have helped balance the prices.

Gas prices, a cause of much concern last time round, have also moved much more into line with European levels for big industrial consumers (those consuming more than one million therms annually). Consumers supplied under "interruptible contracts" benefit from an average price advantage of about 2p a therm compared with their European counterparts.

That favourable trend has been helped by the freeze on British Gas industrial prices — now extended to the end of March next year — and by increases implemented at the beginning of October which means that other European industrial consumers of gas have to pay more for Dutch gas exported.

Those Dutch gas export price increases, the rising of fuel oil prices in Europe and favourable exchange rate movements have (along with Sir Geoffrey's Budget package), helped to claw back some of industry's lost competitiveness in the energy area.

But the latest report says that there are continuing discrepancies in electricity prices for bulk industrial consumers. The gap has narrowed since the beginning of the year, but there are still "substantial" differences between United Kingdom prices and those levied in France and Germany.

The differential with France is between 10 and 28 per cent, compared with 20 to 35 per cent at the beginning of this year, while in West Germany the disparity is up to 16 per cent, compared with up to 25 per cnet in the last task force report.

The Electricity Council and the Central Electricity Generating Board can expect to come under stiff pressure to speed up reform of the bulk supply tariff.

Discussions on the review between the Electricity Council, the CEGB and the area electricity boards are nearing their end but on the present timetable, changes will not be introduced until 1983-84. The bulk energy users at the very least are expected to press for a rather less leisurely pace. There is every indication that energy ministers are anxious that any changes should be instituted, if possible, in 1982-83.

Peter Hill

Fishing for exports with aid as the bait

Economic notebook

In the last few months Britain has succeeded in winning a series of key contracts for projects in the Third World. They were won in the teeth of fierce international competition, and in two cases the Prime Minister herself was actively involved in helping to secure contracts which are estimated to have brought 78,000 man-years of work to recession-hit regions of Britain.

Yet, this success is raising questions about the methods employed in securing such contracts — the use of taxpayers' money to subsidize exporters and the proper use of aid money intended to promote development in the Third World.

It has also highlighted the ambiguity that surrounds the Government's policy objectives and the inadequate transparency in publicly accounting for some of the money used in pursuing these objectives.

Large project contracts in the developing world are a lucrative but cut-throat business. Competition for this business between the countries of western Europe, North America and Japan is certain to get fiercer as recession in the industrialized world deepens and the dole queues lengthen. The industrialized countries are prepared to offer considerable inducements to Third World governments in order to win big project contracts.

These inducements include low-interest loans provided by the country undertaking the contract to help the buyer to pay for it. This is what is known as "export credit". In most industrialized nations export credit is subsidized out of the public purse. In some cases, low-interest export credit will be supplemented by overseas aid from the budgets of industrialized countries in order to sweeten their contract tenders still further.

These practices are well established. But the stakes are getting bigger as the market for big project business in the Third World expands.

Three recent deals in which British companies successfully bid for overseas contracts with government help provide prime examples of the way such business is increasingly conducted. One of these is the £330m contract won by Davy Corporation to build a steel plate mill at the Sicartsa industrial complex on Mexico's Pacific coast. This contract formed part of a memorandum of understanding signed by Mrs Thatcher in Mexico City last month.

In order to beat rival bids from the Japanese and the French, Britain provided £183m in cheap export credits and £35m in aid. The later sum was a straight gift.

A week later Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary, signed a similar memorandum with Professor Delfim Neto the Brazilian Planning Minister. This involved a series of projects worth £360m in orders to Britain's shipbuilding, transport, electronic and construction industries. Some

Industrial nations provided $5,500m in export subsidies last year and Britain accounted for nearly a fifth.

£300m of this will be financed by export credits and a £13m gift of aid will go towards the conversion of Santa Cruz power station from oil to coal.

But the biggest deal is the £1,250m contract, again won by Davy Corporation, to build a steelworks on a greenfields site at Paradip, eastern India. In this case, Britain is offering about £600m in cheap export credits and £150m in aid. This makes it the largest single aid project ever.

The greatest use of foreign aid in such deals reflects a shift in aid policy which began under Dame Judith Hart, the last Labour Minister for Overseas Development. In 1978, she agreed to permit up to 5 per cent of the bilateral aid budget to be set aside each year to furnish a separate fund, known formally as the "Aid and Trade Provision". (ATP)

This fund is openly used as a means of ensuring that British companies secure project contracts, in those developing countries that do not normally receive aid from Britain or where the planned allocation is already used up.

Whereas the overall aid budget is shrinking the Government has made it clear that the ATP will be maintained in real terms. Today, it represents 8 per cent of the £674m bilateral aid programme and is certain to go on rising as a proportion of total aid.

Notionally, projects financed out of the Aid and Trade Provision have to pass a "test of minimum development soundness", but former aid officials describe the procedures involved as a farce. It is admitted by the Oveseas Development Administration that in the case of many ATP projects, it is not always possible to carry out anything approaching the normal appraisal in the time available. The essence of the fund, according to its advocates, is that the money can be deployed swiftly.

This contrasts starkly with the usual procedures for examining proposed aid projects of any significant size, which involves a 30 to 40 page appraisal of the economic and social effects of the project.

Before aid is provided for any such schemes, it has to be approved by a high-powered Projects and Evaluation Committee made up of officials, economists and advisers. This is not the case for projects coming under the Aid and Trade Provision. Therefore, the ATP projects do not face the same rigorous checks as other aid scemes. The question worrying many aid experts is not whether ATP projects pass some "test of minimum development soundness", but whether the limited aid budget is used as effectively as it could be.

The aid provided in the recent Mexican and Brazilian deals came out of the ATP. Dame Judith Hart insists that this fund was never intended to provide free gifts of aid to coutries like Brazil and oil rich Mexico, which are near the top of the Third World league table.

Further the Aid and Trade Provision is not separately indentified in any public document.

The Indian deal was different from the Mexican and Brazilian ones because aid money did not come out of the ATP, but it also has some disconcerting features. To begin with, when the deal was effectively sewn up during the Prime Minister's visit to India last spring, the usual appraisal had not even been carried out.

Of the £150m of aid provided for this project, some £50m has come out of the regular aid to India, and another £100m has come from the "unallocated reserve" within the aid budget. ODA officials say that although the Indian project is not being financed from the ATP, it is actually being treated just as if it was. The distinction is thus becoming blurred.

This reflects the policy announcement made by the present Government in early 1980 that in future greater weight would be given to political, commercial and industrial criteria in judging all aid proposals.

It is evident from ministerial statements that the jobs created in Scotland, the Midlands and the North of England by the Indian deal were a primary motive behind the Government's support for it. Whereas "tying" aid to trade has in the past been used as a means of reducing the cost of giving aid, it now increasingly appears as an instrument for supplementing Britain's regional and industrial policy. At a time when public spending on regional and industrial support is being slashed, using the aid budget in this way clearly has attractions.

It avoids the embarrassment of an avowedly anti-interventionist Government having to increase its spending on industrial support. It also avoids the embarrassment of having — within a fixed level of overall spending — to make corresponding cuts in the aid budget.

There is, however, one further complication. The major industrial countries have agreed between themselves a set of rules and codes to regulate low-interest export credits and prevent an export credit war. These rules set a floor to the level of interest rates that can be charged. They are also aimed at making countries more honest when they mix export credit and aid together.

But there is a loophole. The rules do not apply if the aid and credit terms reach a certain threshold of generosity. Beyond that threshold, the projects are classed as part of an aid programme and not as commercial projects.

This was the case in the recent British deals in spite of the powerful commercial motivation behind the generosity. Overseas competitors are bound to view this as sharp practice.

Department of Trade officials argue that Britain behaves no worse than most other countries. Indeed, we have been reluctantly forced to adopt practices that have been long employed by the French, the Belgians, Austrians and Japanese — all of whom are past-masters at circumventing international rules.

There is a great deal of justification in this argument, although Britain is not as white as Department of Trade officials sometimes claim.

Figures produced by the OECD show that in 1980 the industrial nations provided at least $5,500m in interest rate subsidies to overseas customers. As interest rates have risen, so has the subsidy. Some $2,300m was provided by France alone. Such subsidies cost Britain $1,000m. The figures for the United States and Japan, were respectively $315m and $566m.

These subsidies are not only expensive for the taxpayer — they distort trade and lead to the misallocation of resources. Department of Trade officials reply that Britain can not afford to take a purist attitude in present conditions.

But at the very least it might be expected that the Government will make its policy objectives transparently clear — as well as the instruments for pursuing them — so that the benefits and disadvantages of the chosen course of action can be the more readily judged.

Melvyn Westlake

Business Diary: Who will fit that LT bill?

Hottest public service job of the week must be Sir Peter Masefield's at London Transport, courtesy of those bonfires of supplementary rates demands being lit all over the capital in the wake of the Appeal Court ruling.

The chairman's job pays £34,000, becomes vacant in January and the main qualification, pace Lord Denning, seems to be a strong right arm with which to throw the weight of the Transport (London) Act in the general direction of Ken Livingstone and County Hall.

The court case is hard lines on Sir Peter. He came to LT in August 1980 from British Caledonian (he remains deputy chairman of Caledonian) on the strict understanding that he was a caretaker helping to polish Sir Horace Cutler's ruthless manager image.

Sir Peter was persuaded to stay on after the Tories vacated County Hall last May, uncomfortable though he is sandwiched between an unyielding Department of Transport in Marsham Street and big spenders on the South Bank.

His reward: to have his competence called into question by a bewigged Appeal Court judge.

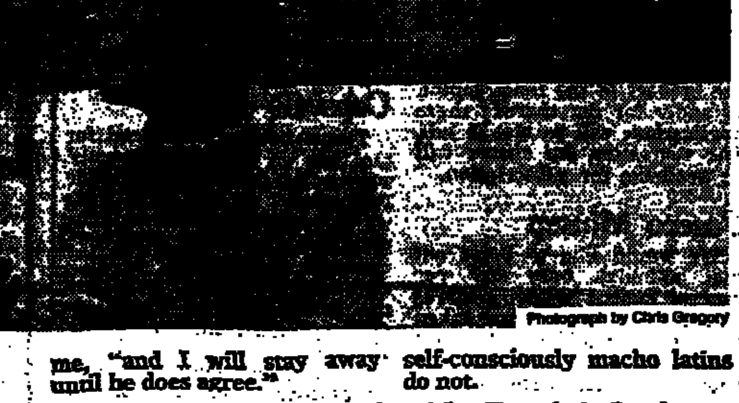
The obvious candidate for the job — on a five year contract — would be a radical transport engineer. Those being rare, the early betting was on a complete outsider for the job — Alan Fisher of Nupe retires at a convenient time and Nupe is well represented on the County Hall benches behind Ken Livingstone.

But Lord Denning may now encourage the council to play safe. Sir Peter has five full time colleagues on LT's board: at least two of them — David Quarmby, MD for buses and Tony Ridley, MD for rail — have had careers that might justify the promotion.

Clean sweep?

A pipe smoking commuter entraining at Leatherhead could find no ashtray in any of the few smoking carriages. On arrival at Waterloo, therefore, he sought out a British Rail official to complain about the mess in which passengers were obliged to travel because there were no ashtrays. The official said: "We have removed them all to make it easier for our clearners to do their jobs. Smokers should stop smoking and then there would be no mess in the carriages". Be even easier if there were no passengers. But there would still be cleaners, I'll bet.





Photograph by Chris Gregory

Hand it to me

The big surprise Ingeborg Kopp (above) pulled out of the bag when I went to see her in Mayfair yesterday is that unless she comes to an agrreement with her father over the control of the family business, she will be packing her bags. Miss Kopp is chief executive and father Adolf founder-president of Comtesse Kederwaren, the makers of hand-made horse-hair and other natural hide handbags which retail here at between £200 and £2,200 a time.

"I will go", Miss Kopp told me, "and I will stay away until he does agree."

Miss Kopp, who is 40 and has worked in the family firm since she was 17, says she has given the 73-year patriarch three weeks to hand over day-to-day control.

She is responsible for design and sales, her father being the production man. Brother Peter, 32, no longer works for the firm.

Miss Kopp told me that of the 100 or so handbags she had on show with her in London only one was for men. British men considered them effiminate, she said, although strangely enough self-consciously macho latins do not.

Miss Kopp is in London on her way back to Frankfurt after a three-month sales trip around the world, something she has done twice a year for the last 20 years.

"It sounds very glamorous and I do find it very exciting, but you know, the sad thing about it is you're always having to say 'goodbye' " she told me.

This, says Miss Kopp, is her last such trip. But, unless she sees eye to eye with father when she gets home, it looks as if her Auf Wiedersehens aren't over yet.

Gathers no mosque

It is not often that a jet plane contributes to the peace of mind of the people it flies over, but such is the case with a British Airways Boeing 747 which passed through the Seychelles recently.

The Islamic community there is building a new mosque but the work was held up because nobody in the islands had equipment sophisticated enough to pinpoint the bearing of Mecca.

Enter the 747 on a stopover, with its inertial navigation system. BA staff there fed the coordinates of the mosque and of Mecca into the works, and came out with an answer that satisfied the community and work may now proceed.

Any reciprocal divine intervention which might help BA find its financial bearings could be much appreciated.

Reader Mrs D Phillips has been at the puns again: in view of the Metro strike, she asks, should not the Midlands now be renamed the Pique District?

Ross Davies

Chloride slashes deficit

By Drew Johnston

A decline in pre-tax losses at Chloride Group from £5.1m last year to £2.7m this year has been described as steady progress by chairman Sir Alastair Pilkington.

The group operating profit of £6.5m for the six months ended September 30, 1981 has improved on the operating profits of £2.6m in the first half of 1980-81 and the £1.9m in the second half of that year.

No interim dividend has been declared on the ordinary shares as a result of the continuing losses though a dividend on the preference stock will be paid at a rate of 2.1 per cent.

Sir Alastair said yesterday that the group held or increased its market shares in all major areas, with the total sales volume of the rising slightly on the first half of last year.

Sales of car batteries were significantly higher in the United Kingdom, North America and overseas.

Unit sales of batteries in



Sir Alastair Pilkington, chairman of Chloride.

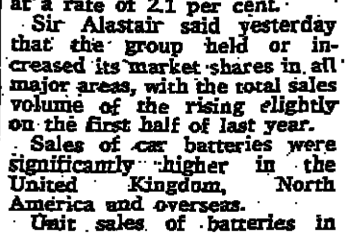
Europe and in the United Kingdom were badly hit by the recession and lower levels of industrial activity. The increase in total group turnover from £171.1m to £191.3m is largely the result of exchange rate effects on non-United Kingdom business.

Sir Alastair went on to say that control of cash was still the company's major priority.

Chloride has reduced its shareholding in its South African subsidiary, Chloride Holdings SA, from 70 to just over 50 per cent. In Australia, Australian Mining and Smelting bought over 14.9 per cent of Chloride's ordinary shares and took up their rights for 14.9 per cent of the cumulative convertible preference shares.

Australian Mining is a subsidiary of Rio Tinto Zinc. Chloride's newly-developed lead-acid battery, which needs no maintenance throughout its useful life is now in production.

Sir Alastair said that with a reconstructed senior management team and a cost-cutting exercise carried out in all parts of the group, the company is well placed to take advantage of improved conditions.



Bellway holds payout despite fall

By Peter Wainwright

Bellway, which failed to merge with fellow Newcastle housebuilder William Leech to form what would have been our fourth largest residential development group last June, yesterday pleased the market with its figures for the year to last July. The shares rose 4p to 84p but they are still well away from the 1981 peak of 103p.

Turnover rose from £25.8m to £26m in a difficult year, and a £500,000 rise in interest was partly to blame for the fall in pretax profits from £2.7m to £1.8m. Earnings a share duly plunged from 26.6p to 9.7p but dealers were pleased with the decision to maintain the gross dividend at 10.01p a share. Pretax profits, adjusted for inflation were £744,000. The dividend absorbed £907,000.

The group reports that during the year more stress was placed on the first-time buyer market. This was reflected both in new home building and in the revitalizing of older property.

A breakdown shows that first-half profits were £217,000 before tax. But the second half saw an upsurge to £1.56m. The year before, the figures were £1.8m and £1.56m respectively.

Allied Irish Banks slowed by high costs

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Half-year results from Allied Irish Banks show an increase in pretax profits from £Ir23.9m to £Ir29.5m in the period to September 30. During the previous six months to March 31, the group made £Ir29m, before tax.

Allied Irish said that business had expanded over the period, although the outcome was somewhat disappointing. Increased costs and a higher bad-debt provision meant that profits did not grow in line with the increased activity and the higher level of capital employed. The balance sheet at the end of September showed total assets of £Ir4,746m, compared with £Ir4,492m six months earlier and £Ir3,681m a year ago.

The bank was also effected by Central Bank guidelines on lending in the Republic of Ireland which limited the increase in lending and Allied Irish said that resources growth was not as buoyant as had been hoped. "In the present difficult economic climate, we do not anticipate any upswing in profits in the second half of the year," Allied Irish said.

In May, Allied Irish raised £Ir32.5m through a rights issue to fund future growth and it had benefited from this issue which was completed in June and the liquid position of the group was strong.

At the time of the rights issue, Allied Irish undertook to maintain the dividend on the enlarged share capital. The unchanged half-year dividend of 4.55 gross will absorb £Ir4.7m compared with £Ir3.7m a year ago. After an estimated tax change of £Ir8.9m, which includes provisions totalling £Ir1.9m for the group's share of the recent special levy on banks, the profits for the latest six months show a £Ir1.5m reduction to £Ir20.6m on the previous six months.

Fully-diluted earnings per share were 16.4p, compared with 19.9p in the previous half and 14.8p in the same period a year ago.

Under inflation-accounting, the current-cost profit before tax falls to £Ir11.2m and the profit attributable to shareholders is reduced from £Ir20.6m in the historical accounts to £Ir2.3m in the current-cost accounts.

The balance sheet shows an increase in advances during the last six months to September 30 from £Ir2,435m to £Ir2,596m.

CES diversifies

By Paul Maidment

Combined English Stores Group, the specialist retailers, whose interests include the Harry Fenton menswear chain and Salisbury Handbags, has diversified into package camping holidays by acquiring Cheshire-based Eurocamp Travel.

CES is paying an initial consideration of £2.99m, which will be adjusted to four times Eurocamp's pretax profits for this year, and increased or decreased by the difference between this year's pretax profits and those of the next three years.

Eurocamp has increased its pretax profits from £85,000 at the end of 1978 to £603,000 at the end of last year. Profits for this year are expected to be around £800,000. Its net tangible assets at December 31 were £894,000.

CES has issued unlisted redeemable unsecured loan stock to meet the initial consideration, which will carry interest at 2 per cent below base rate.

Mr Tony Haygarth, financial director of CES, said Eurotravel was a young company with growth potential and would provide CES with seasonal summer earnings

Wolseley profits fall 49pc

A profits drop of 49 per cent from £15m to £8m has been reported by Wolseley-Hughes, central heating specialists, for the year to July 31. It also suffered a sales downturn from £193m to £179m.

But lower interest rates and the release of over £3m of deferred taxation provisions has swollen post tax earnings of the Worcestershire - based group from £9.6m to £10.1m. As a result, the group has increased its dividend from 11.57p gross to 13.357p gross.

This represents a 10 per cent overall rise in dividends from 17.85p gross to 19.64p gross, and Mr Jeremy Lancaster, group chairman, said yesterday it was the board's intention to match, or beat, inflation whenever possible.

Strict cash control in the year led to a positive cash flow of £4.9m and the elimination of the group's overdraft. Also, by the year end, this policy of retrenchment reduced the level of gearing to just 2.4 per cent.

Mr Lancaster said these results had been achieved despite the fall-off in business largely because the Wolseley-Hughes Merchants subsidiary responded quickly and effectively to the fall-off in demand.

The agricultural division was also badly-hit by the recession, though record results were recorded by Parmiter, harrow-manufacturers, despite a drop in sales volume.

According to Mr Lancaster, more hopeful performances from McConnel, power arms manufacturers, and Archie Kidd, grassland equipment makers, had raised expectations of a marked improvement in the division's future performance.

'W' Ribbons cuts loss to £320,000

Pretax losses at "W" Ribbons Holdings, manufacturers of webbing and cargo-handling equipment, have been cut from £1.2m to £320,000 for the twelve months to June 30.

Sales fell from £15.2m to £10.5m following the disposal of the German seat-belts division in March last year. Trading profit was £335,000, against a loss last year of £442,000. The company says this reflects a reduction in overheads and a rationalization of production facilities. The figures include £77,000 relating to the closure of the Croydon plant and the transfer of the unit's activities to the main weaving plant in South Wales.

The loss per share was reduced from 21.6p to 5.82p. The board says borrowings are now considerably lower and the company continues to improve. It views the future with increasing optimism. It is again passing a dividend.

Preussag raises its AMC stake to 85pc

By Our Financial Staff

Preussag, the West German industrial holding company, yesterday disclosed that it had raised its stake in Amalgamated Metal Corporation, the international metals group, from 79.5 per cent to 85.33 per cent.

The shares were bought in the stock market last Friday, according to informed sources, after Preussag withdrew its formal offer early in the morning to buy out the remaining holders of some 20 per cent of AMC.

Under a scheme of arrangement, Preussag was offering to buy out the minority holdings of AMC at 400p cash a share. But with AMC's principal asset being tin smelting in Malaysia, a Malaysian government agency, Permodalan Nasional, bid 550p cash for the shares.

On the stock market last Friday AMC's shares were particulary active and moved between 560p and 613p. The Malaysions bought about 10 per cent of AMC and Preussag purchased a further 5 per cent before withdrawing. Yesterday the shares were steady at 555p.

Preussag is also taking a 25.1 per cent stake in the increased share capital of a West German company C. Deilmann AG. The stake will be achieved via an as yet unspecified increase in Deilmann's present DM 88m share capital and normal purchases of Deilmann shares, providing the deal is agreed by the federal cartel office.

Deilmann's group turnover totalled DM 954m in 1980. The company is involved in the exploration and production of crude oil, while its subsidiaries are involved in uranium mining and specialist mining techńofogy.

New Trust will invest in Australian companies

Lloyds Bank International is to make an offer for sale for a new trust, New Australia Investment Trust, of 5m ordinary 50p shares for subscription at 100p each. The trust will concentrate on medium-sized Australian firms with growth potential, mainly those in the provision of services to the natural resources sector.

Clients of Vickers da Costa, the brokers to the issue, intend to apply for 3m shares; these applications will be met in full. The remaining 2m shares will be available for subscription.

Foseco Minsep

We would like to point out that although only 66.7 per cent of Foseco Minsep's shares offered by rights were taken up by shareholders, the rest were sold in the market just above the offer price and not left with the underwriters as suggested in Wednesday's paper.

Argyll-Linfood

As the proposed takeover of Linfood by Argyll Foods has been referred to the Monopolies Commission, the offer has now lapsed. Argyll's board is reviewing, with its advisers, the implications of the referral.

Allied London

In the year to June 30, 1981, pretax profits of Allied London Properties—who took over Gough Cooper in 1980—rose by 15.9 per cent to £1.66m.

The total dividend is being raised from a scrip-adjusted 1.69p gross to 1.92p gross. Net assets per share are up from 113p to 167p. Gough is now wholly owned; at the time of acquisition it was making losses with substantial bank borrowings. It is now operating profitably and bank borrowings are considerably reduced.

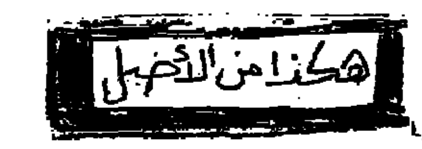
Capseals' sale

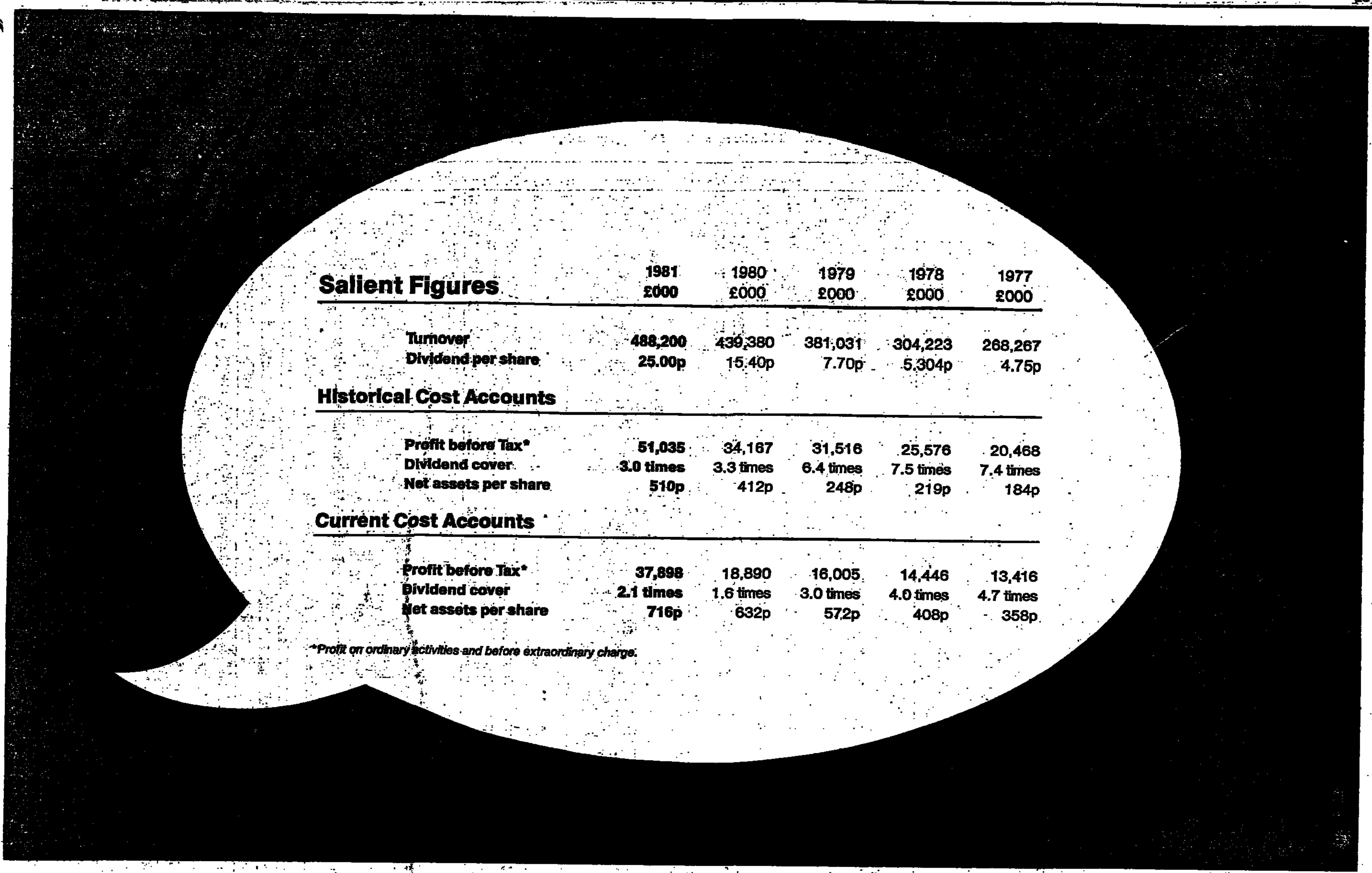
Terms have been agreed for the sale of one of Capseals' wholly-owned offshoots, Contour Packaging, to a consortium which includes present and past management for £350,000; £200,000 was paid on completion on November 6, 1981, and the balance will be phased in monthly instalments over about 12 months.

The sale represents a discount on asset-value of £309,000 for which provision was made in Capseals' 1980-81 accounts. The sale proceeds will reduce the group's borrowings.

Highland Distilleries

Highland Distilleries' board does not expect any improvement in the new fillings position in 1982. In his annual statement, Mr John Macphail, the chairman, says that maintaining the 1981 figures would be considered a satisfactory performance in the light of current conditions. Sales of matured whisky should show a small improvement in volume, but margins will be under pressure.





Salient Figures	1981 £000	1980 £000	1979 £000	1978 £000	1977 £000
Turnover	488,200	439,380	381,031	304,223	268,267
Dividend per share	25.00p	15.40p	7.70p	5.304p	4.75p
Historical Cost Accounts					
Profit before Tax*	51,035	34,167	31,516	25,576	20,468
Dividend cover	3.0 times	3.3 times	6.4 times	7.5 times	7.4 times
Net assets per share	510p	412p	248p	219p	184p
Current Cost Accounts					
Profit before Tax*	37,898	18,890	16,005	14,446	13,416
Dividend cover	2.1 times	1.6 times	3.0 times	4.0 times	4.7 times
Net assets per share	716p	632p	572p	408p	358p

*Profit on ordinary activities and before extraordinary charge.

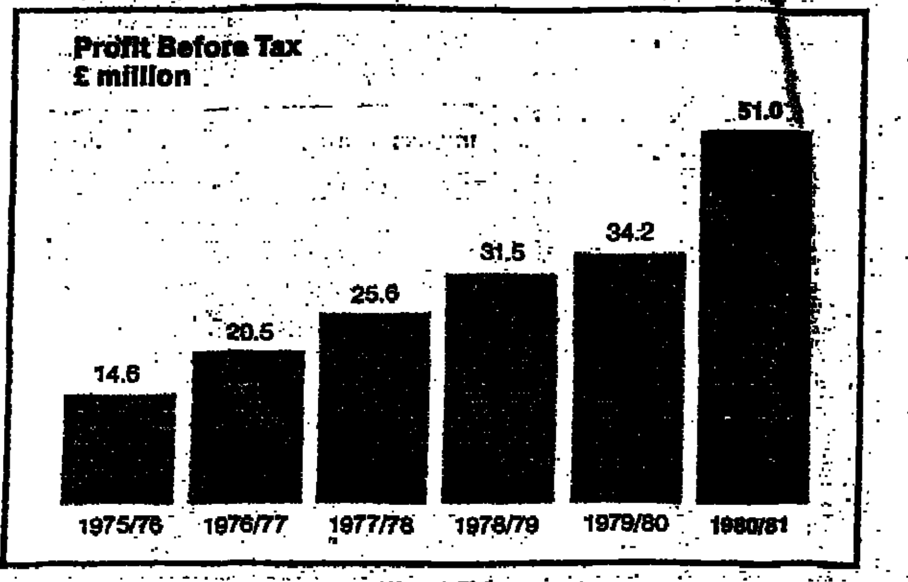
Massive capital expenditure now paying off - £51m profits

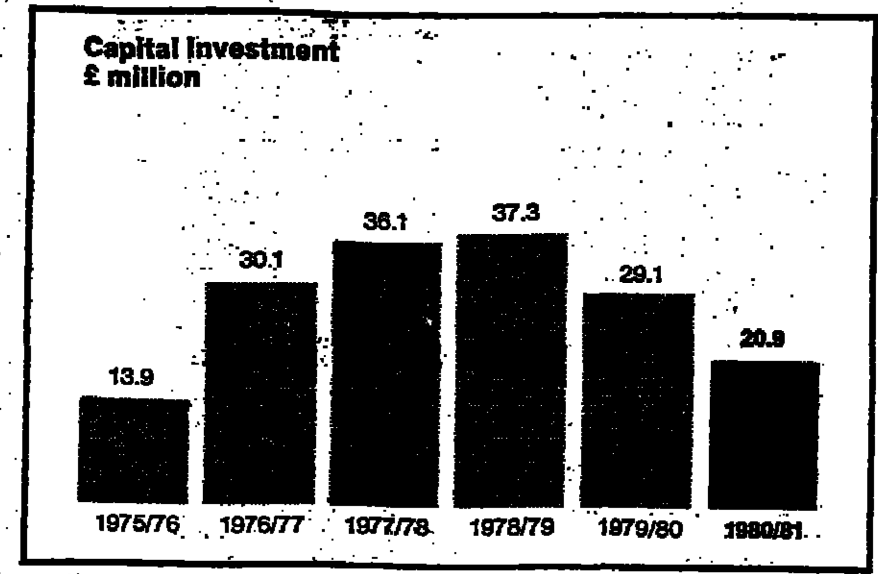
- ***Further increases in efficiency and profitability flowing through from -*** high utilisation of expanded and modernised assets
- ***Record sales approach £500 million -*** Silver Spoon the biggest single grocery branded product
- ***Profits rise to £51 million***
- ***Dividend increases to 25.00p per share -*** A record of growth - the 17th successive year of dividend increases
- ***Balance sheet strong -*** with borrowings down to 15% of shareholders funds and net assets up to 716p per share
- ***Stability -*** from new production quotas for next 5 years in a relatively recession-proof market



BRITISH SUGAR
CORPORATION LIMITED

THE RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF





To: The Secretary, British Sugar Corporation, PO Box 26, Oundle Road, Peterborough PE2 9QU.
Please arrange to send me a copy of British Sugar's Annual Report and Accounts, to be published on 11th December.

Name ______________________

Company ______________________

Address ______________________

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Stock Exchange Prices

Late surge

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 9. Dealings End, Nov 20. § Contango Day, Nov 23 Settlement Day, Nov 30

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS [illegible]

MEDIUMS [illegible]

LONGS [illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B [illegible]

C — E [illegible]

F — H [illegible]

I — L [illegible]

M — N

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	144	MK Electric	203	..	17.1	8.4	7.7
365	170½	ML Hldgs	288	..	10.0	3.5	9.2
50½	27	MY Dart	34	..	4.1	12.2	5.9
150	86	McCorquodale	123	..	11.4	9.3	6.0
82	66	Macfarlane	70	—	5.3	7.6	8.4
43	18	McInerney Prop	24	+6	2.2	9.3	5.6
53	25	Mackay H.	39	−1	5.2	13.3	14.3
127	84	McKechnie Bros	86	• −2	10.4	12.1	6.7
100	56	Macpherson D.	61	..	6.0	9.8	28.0
174	85¼	Magnet & S'thns	130	..	7.1	5.5	9.3
217	97	Man Agcy Music	123	−1	12.5b	10.2	4.3
235	101	Man Ship Canal	101	−2	..e	..	..
36	21	Mang Bronze	26	• −1	3.1	11.9	..
154	67	Marchwiel	110	−2	8.6	7.8	..
142	76	Marks & Spencer	123	+1	5.8	4.7	16.8
51	33½	Marley Ltd	37	..	3.2	8.7	8.5
28	14½	Marling Ind	25	..	1.3	5.4	17.5
42	23	Marshall T Lox	37	..	4.0	10.7	3.3
39	21	Do A	33	..	4.0	12.0	2.9

O — S [illegible]

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
555	350	Sotheby P.B.	417	+2	17.9	4.3	11.1
23½	9	Spencer Gears	11	..	1.1	9.7	7.2
184	115½	Spirax-Sarco	137	+1	6.3	4.6	11.5
88	29	Staffs Potts	32	..	0.0	..	..
107	70	Stag Furniture	82	..	7.1	8.7	6.9
59½	29¼	Stakis (Reo)	45	..	2.1	4.6	7.6
544	230	Standard Tel	433	+3	15.0	3.5	14.2
87	45	Stanley A. G.	49	−1	3.6	7.3	7.9
325	115	Steel Bros	216	• ..	11.4	5.3	8.3
222	154	Steetley Co	170	..	15.0	8.8	8.2
25½	12½	Steinberg	23	..	..	..	..
130	84	Stonehill	98	..	12.1	12.4	33.7
56	9	Stone Platt	11	+1	0.1e	1.3	..
33	11	Streeters	24	..	..	..	8.3
80	48	Strong & Fisher	56	..	9.7	17.3	..
110	42	Sunlight Serv	91	..	3.6	4.0	7.5
52	25	Sutcliffe S'man	46	..	..e	..	..
188	61½	Swire Pacific 'A'	117	−1	..	..	..
201	140	Syltone	153	..	12.9	8.4	17.0

T — Z [illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RUBBER

[illegible]

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
248	178	Assam Frontier	190	..	14.3	7.5	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	440	+2	7.1	1.6	..
378	230	McLeod Russel	345	..	11.8	3.4	..
332	255	Moran	280	..	7.1t	2.6	..
158	93	Surmah Valley	93	..	1.4	1.5	..
283	132¼	Warren Plant	237	h ..	14.3	6.0	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	36	+1	9.1	25.3	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£29	..	500	17.2	..
30	17	Gt Nthn Tele	£30	..	150	5.0	11.3
353	150	Imp Cont Gas	178	..	11.4	6.4	11.3
185	93	Milford Docks	120	..	0.7	0.6	..
193	88	Nesco Inv	128	−2	10.0	7.8	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£29	..	500	17.3	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Asprey 25p Ord (a)	600-25
Brooke Bond Liebig 5¼% Db 87-92	£54½
Cable and Wireless 50p Ord (168)	197
E. Worcester Wtr 10½% Rd Pf 1986 (†b)	£12¼+½
Exchequer 15% 1997 (£95½d)	£23+¼
Feedback Group 10p Ord (90a)	100-3
Habitat Group 10p Ord (110)	153
Humberside Elect Controls 10p Ord (10½a)	17+2
Johnstone's Paints 10p Ord (63a)	78+½
London Private Health 25p Ord (25a)	29½
Precious Metals Trust 25p Ord (£1)	102
Sheldon Jones 25p Ord (67a)	71+3
Tendering H'dred Wtr 10½% Rd Pf '86 (£100h)	£12¾+½
V W 25p Ord (62a)	61-1

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun.	
BP (275 partly paid)	Dec 18	153+2
Foseco Minsep 25p Ord (182‡)	Nov 27	185+3
Websters Group (28‡)	Dec 15	19½ prem-½

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £30 paid. j £25 paid.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 11	Market rates (close) November 11	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8680-8860	$1.8780-8800	0.24-0.14c prem	0.47-0.37c prem
Montreal	$2.2250-2470	$2.2370-2390	0.48-0.58c disc	1.10-1.30c disc
Amsterdam	4.55-59fl	4.56½-57½fl	1¼-¼c prem	3¼-2¼c prem
Brussels	69.70-70.20f	69.85-95f	8-18c disc	47-57c disc
Copenhagen	13.38-45k	13.40-42k	110-20ore prem	145-10ore prem
Dublin	1.1780-1820p	1.1780-1800p	20-35p disc	80-100p disc
Frankfurt	4.15-18m	4.16½-17½m	1¾-1¼pf prem	4½-4pf prem
Lisbon	119.50-120.50e	120.00-30e	40-235c disc	100-465c disc
Madrid	178.25-180.00p	179.25-45p	5-25c disc	40-65c disc
Milan	2221-31lr	2221½-23½lr	13-16lr disc	43-47lr disc
Oslo	10.97-11.05k	11.03-04k	140-30ore prem	295-185ore prem
Paris	10.48-54f	10.50-51f	1¼-2¼c disc	7-8c disc
Stockholm	10.28-35k	10.28-30k	240-175ore prem	670-600ore prem
Tokyo	426-33y	428-29y	3.10-2.75y prem	8.75-8.40y prem
Vienna	29.12-32sch	29.17-22sch	13-9gro prem	29-20gro prem
Zurich	3.31½-35½f	3.32½-33½f	1¾-1¼c prem	4¼-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.1 at 89.2

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 15%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14¾ Low 14

Week Fixed: 14¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14⅞	2 months	14½
3 months	14⅞	3 months	14⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	14⅞-14⅞	3 months	15
3 months	14⅞-14⅞	4 months	14⅞
4 months	14⅞-14⅞	6 months	14⅞
6 months	13⅞-13⅞		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-15¼	7 months	14¾-14½
2 months	15½-15¼	8 months	14¾-14½
3 months	15¼-15¼	9 months	14¾-14½
4 months	15¼-15	10 months	14¾-14⅞
5 months	14⅞-14⅞	11 months	14¾-14½
6 months	14⅞-14⅞	12 months	14¾-14½

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	15⅛-15⅛	6 months	14⅞-14⅞
3 months	15⅛-14⅞	12 months	14⅞-14⅞

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	15¼	3 months	15¼
7 days	15¼	6 months	14¾
1 month	15⅞	1 year	14¾

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 15⅛ Close 15

1 week	15½-15¼	6 months	14⅞-14⅞
1 month	15⅞-15⅞	9 months	14⅞-14⅞
3 months	15⅞-15⅞	12 months	14⅞-14⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 15⅛ 6 months 15⅛

Finance House Base Rate 16%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6315-1.6465
Bahrein	0.7033-0.7063
Finland	8.1735-8.2125
Greece	103.90-105.90
Hongkong	10.6250-10.6850
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.5256-0.5286
Malaysia	4.2230-4.2530
Mexico	47.30-48.70
New Zealand	2.2540-2.2740
Saudi Arabia	6.3810-6.4110
Singapore	3.8530-3.8830
South Africa	1.7920-1.8070

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5950-1.5980
† Canada	1.1925-1.1927
Netherlands	2.4300-2.4330
Belgium	37.13-37.18
Denmark	7.1350-7.1400
West Germany	2.2135-2.2155
Portugal	63.80-64.10
Spain	95.45-95.55
Italy	1183-1184
Norway	5.8730-5.8780
France	5.58-5.59
Sweden	5.4790-5.4840
Japan	227.70-228.00
Austria	15.61-15.64
Switzerland	1.7720-1.7750

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8384-0.8385

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 12¾-13¼; seven days, 13⅞-13⅞; one month, 13⅞-13¾; three months, 13¾-14; six months, 13⅞-14¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $412.75 (an ounce); pm, $412 close, $412.75.
Krugerrand (per coin): $423-425 (£224.5-225.50).
Sovereigns (new): $101-103 (£53.5-54.5).

MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Rally on bull market hope

After a relatively quiet day the market received a late fillip yesterday on news of an imminent big bull market in gilts and a further reduction in interest rates.

This was relayed at a seminar arranged by the Society of Investment analysts by Mr Gordon Pepper of W. Greenwell brokers. He thinks that the current level of real interest rates suggests that there will be a bull market in bonds and a fall in United Kingdom interest rates. However, he gave a warning that domestic rates may have to wait on events in the United States.

Nevertheless, it was just the news the market had been waiting for. Gilts which opened the day with losses of £¼, still reflecting the latest money supply and weaker pound, rallied to close with rises of £¼ in longs and £⅛ in shorts. Friday's £700m call for the remainder of the tap Exchequer 15 per cent 1997 was temporarily forgotten.

In equities, the miners and the tanker drivers continued to dampen sentiment with turnover again on the low side. But helped by Mr Pepper's statement the FT Index closed at its high for the day 5.6 up at 508.2, having opened unchanged at 10 am.

Blue chips were firmer where changed with ICI up 4p at 284p, Beechams 3p to 224p, Glaxo 8p to 230p, Fisons 2p to 140p, Courtaulds 2p to 62p, Hawker Siddeley 8p to 328p and Lucas Industries 3p to 199p.

Against the trend, Grand Metropolitan slipped 1p to 170p amid new rumours of a rights issue, with GKN 5p lighter at 155p. Further profit taking after recent bid rumours left P & O D'fd 3p off at 123p.

In foods, rumours of a dawn raid by Unilever boosted Unigate 9p to 99p, although this was being discounted in most circles. Ranks Hovis McDougall hardened 3½p to 68½p, matching the recent dawn raid terms from British Sugar which weighed in with better than expected full-year profits 15p higher at 380p.

But the half-year news from Associated British Foods had already been discounted with the price slipping 3p to 152p before recovering to close unchanged at 155p.

In drinks further consideration of recent figures clipped 8p from Whitbread 'A' at 152p, while Scottish & Newcastle advanced 2p to 54p on dawn raid rumours.

In stores F W Woolworth improved ½p to 52½p following figures much in line with expectations while Boots, reporting next week, climbed 2p to 204p. Great Universal Stores were wanted 7p firmer at 435p. Combined English Stores went up 2p at 39p on acquisition news.

News of increased dividend in spite of a profits setback added 25p to Wolseley Hughes at 265p with favourable trading news also good for 9p up on Chubb to 94p, H C Slingsby 2p at 60p, Allied London Properties 13p to 85p and Thomas Warrington 2p to 93p. But "W" Robbins failed to please, falling 1p to 13½p.

Still reflecting recent figures, De La Rue rallied 25p to 630p and Extel, reporting soon, improved 5p to 235p.

Third-quarter figures from General Accident were up to expectations, with the price hardening 10p to 352p in an already firm composite sector. Commercial Union, which reported yesterday, held steady at 135p with rises in Guardian Royal Exchange 4p to 316p, and Royal Insurance, reporting next week, 4p to 380p.

Rumours of a dawn raid show no sign of subsiding in English China Clays where the price jumped another 7p to 157p yesterday—making a 24p rise so far this week. Speculative interest was also good for 4p on Black & Edgington at 50p, and 15p on Mercantile House at 465p. But nervous selling left Sangers 5p off at 34p.

Electricals were a strong market with stock shortages continuing to push prices higher. Among the majors, GEC rose 16p to 747p, Racal 7p to 415p, Plessey 7p to 340p, and Thorn EMI 8p to 436p. Among second-liners, Electrocomponents rallied 12p to 135p, with Chloride 2p better at 24p on less-than-expected losses. Farnell Electronic was also wanted in a thin market, rising 12p to 454p.

Equity turnover on November 10 was £127.283m (14,981 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: Chubb, Black & Edgington, Woolworth, Inch Kenneth, Racal, Barclays Bank, BOC Int, Sangers and AB Foods.

Traded options: Total contracts amounted to 1,033, with P&O attracting the lion's share on 119 contracts.

Traditional options saw calls in Town & City on 2½p, Bremar Tst on 26½p, RHM on 6½p and Premier on 6½p.

Jefferson Smurfit

Alton Packaging, the United States subsidiary of Jefferson Smurfit Group, is to invest Ir£33m in a new power plant at its Jacksonville, Florida, linerboard mill. The project will convert the Jacksonville energy source from oil to coal and yield a dramatic reduction in energy costs. It will be due for completion in mid-1983.

The new plant will eliminate consumption of 260,000 barrels of oil a year.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
All. Irish Bks. (I)	—(—)	29.5(23.9)	16.7(15.1)	3.5(3.5)	21/12	—(8.0)
A. B. Foods (I)	1,405(1,197)	57.9(44.2)	8.29(7.04)	1.4(1.2)	8/3	—(3.8)
Brit. Sugar (F)	488(439)	51(34.1)	74.3(50.3)	17.5(12.6)	—	25(15.4)
Castle Brand (I)	1.21(0.96)	0.04*(0.07*)	30*(51.6*)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Bellway (F)	26(25.86)	1.78(2.74)	9.7(26.6)	4(4)	—	7(7)
Chloride (I)	191.3(171.1)	2.7*(5.1*)	6.5*(6.9*)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Chubb (I)	135(114.9)	2.37(3.42)	0.35(2.39)	1.9(1.9)	4/12	—(5.42)
External Inv. (I)	—(—)	0.56(0.44)	—(—)	4.5(4)	5/1	—(8.5)
All. Lon. Props. (F)	15.4(7.37)	1.66(1.43)	4.98(3.11)	1.1(0.9†)	—	1.35(1.1†)
Applied Computer (I)	3.55(3.95)	0.47(0.4)	3.16(3.13)	0.2(0.17†)	11/12	—(0.49†)
Gen. Acc. (3rd qrt.)	—(—)	82.7(65.7)	33.8(26.9)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Lon. Entertain. (F)	—(—)	0.22(0.17)	4.56(3.27)	1.7(1.7)	11/12	1.7(1.7)
H. C. Slingsby (I)	1.43(1.58)	0.007(0.007)	0.79(0.77)	0.6(0.6)	4/1	—(2.4)
Sturla (I)	2.14(0.093)	0.45(0.22*)	3.8(3.2*)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Transatlc. & Gen. (I)	—(—)	0.09(0.11)	—(—)	3.3(3.1)	5/1	—(7.0)
T. Warrington (I)	5.29(4.39)	0.31(0.06)	5.02(1.16)	1.7(1.16)	4/1	—(4.73)
"W" Ribbons (F)	10.5(15.17)	0.31*(1.19*)	5.8*(21.6*)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Wire & Plastic (I)	1.18(1.21)	0.17(0.175)	—(—)	0.85(0.73)	4/1	—(1.95)
F W Wolwrth (9 mth)	798(698)	3.42(7.11)	0.59(1.13)	—(—)	—	—(4.8)
Wolseley-Hughes (F)	179(193)	8(15)	62.9(59.6)	9.3(8.1)	—	13.7(12.5)

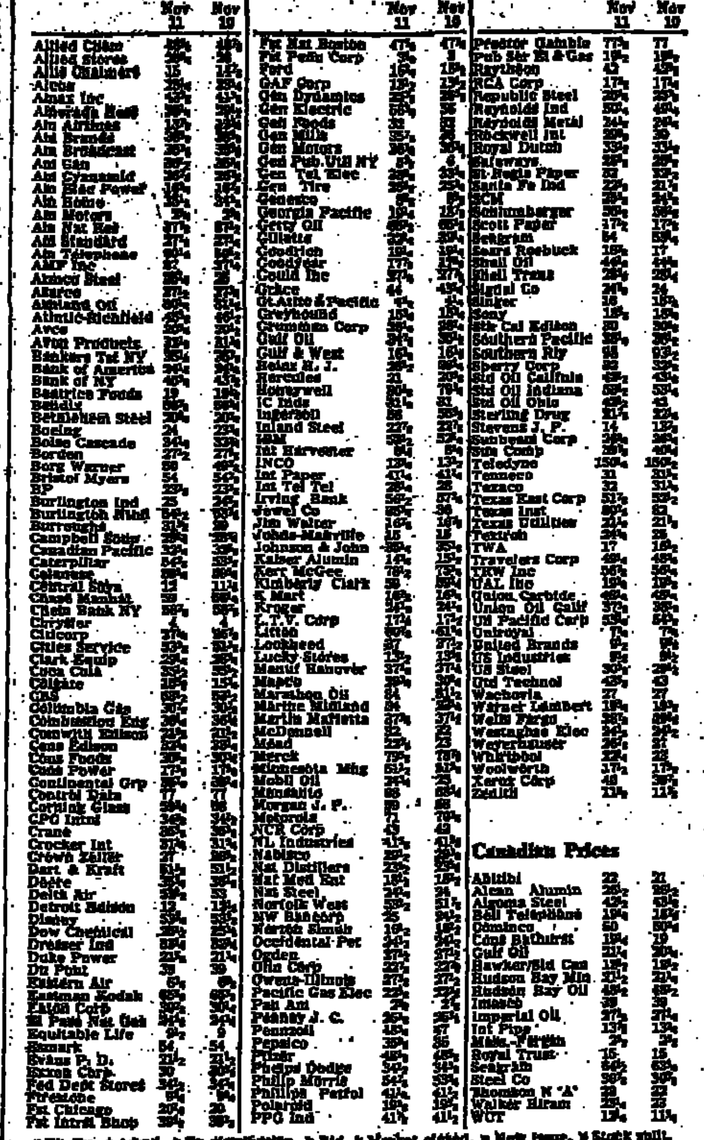
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=loss. †=adjusted for scrip issue.

Wall Street

New York, Nov 11.—Stocks closed slightly higher with takeovers providing most of the action in a market otherwise burdened by concerns about the economic outlook.

The Dow Jones industrial average was lower most of the day but a late rally saw it close up 3.14 at 857.12.

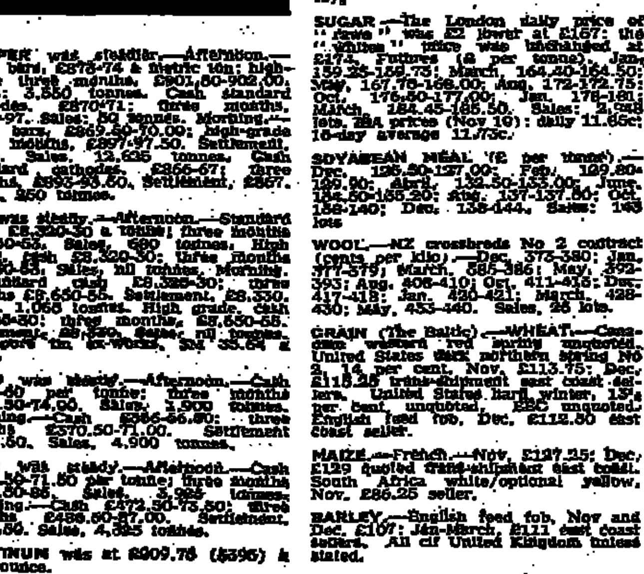
The market had been slowly moving up under the impetus of easing interest rates but the Dow Jones lost ground after President Reagan said the recession could drag on longer than was first expected.



	Nov 11	Nov 10		Nov 11	Nov 10		Nov 11	Nov 10
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Nat Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]	Procter Gamble	[illegible]	77
Allied Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	15	[illegible]	Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]	Raytheon	42	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]	GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]	Republic Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Airlines	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]	Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	Royal Dutch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Safeways	[illegible]	[illegible]
El Paso Nat Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]	Penney J. C.	[illegible]	[illegible]	Imperial Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Equitable Life	[illegible]	9	Pennzoil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Int Pipe	[illegible]	[illegible]
Esmark	54	54	Pepsico	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mass-Fergsn	[illegible]	[illegible]
Evans P. D.	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pfizer	[illegible]	[illegible]	Royal Trust	15	15
Exxon Corp	30	[illegible]	Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]	Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fed Dept Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Philip Morris	[illegible]	[illegible]	Steel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Firestone	[illegible]	[illegible]	Phillips Petrol	[illegible]	[illegible]	Thomson N 'A'	22	22
Fst Chicago	[illegible]	20	Polaroid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Walker Hiram	[illegible]	23
Fst Intrst Bnsp	[illegible]	[illegible]	PPG Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]	WCT	[illegible]	[illegible]

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Commodities



COPPER was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash bars, £873-74 a metric ton; high-grade three months, £901.50-902.00. Sales: 3,550 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £870-71; three months, £896-97. Sales: 50 tonnes. Morning.—Cash bars, £869.50-70.00; high-grade three months, £897-97.50. Settlement, £870. Sales, 12,625 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £866-67; three months, £893-93.50. Settlement, £867. Sales, 250 tonnes.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8,320-30 a tonne; three months £8,650-55. Sales, 680 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,320-30; three months £8,650-55. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £8,325-30; three months £8,650-55. Settlement, £8,330. Sales, 1,065 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,325-30; three months, £8,650-55. Settlement, £8,330. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin, ex-works, SM 35.64 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £359-60 per tonne; three months £373.50-74.00. Sales, 1,900 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £366-66.50; three months £370.50-71.00. Settlement £356.50. Sales, 4,900 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £470.50-71.50 per tonne; three months £485.50-86. Sales, 3,925 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £472.50-73.50; three months £486.50-87.00. Settlement, £473.50. Sales, 4,325 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £209.75 ($396) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 458.80p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 862.50); three months, 474.30p (890.80c); six months, 491.55p (921.80c); one year, 524p (982.80c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 457.5-58.5p; three months, 474.5-75.0p. Sales, 38 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 457.5-58.5p; three months, 474-74.5p. Settlement, 458.5p. Sales, 88 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £574-75 per tonne; three months, £598.50-99.00. Sales, 1,725 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £573-74; three months, £597.50-98.00. Settlement, £574. Sales, 17,325 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,530-40 per tonne; three months, £2,705-10. Sales, 174 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,630-35; three months, £2,700-2,705. Settlement, £2,635. Sales, 600 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo).—Dec, 54.10-54.30; Jan, 54-66.50; Jan-March, 56.10-56.20; April-June, 60.30-59.90; July-Sept, 63.10-63.20; Oct-Dec, 66.40-66.50; Jan-March, 69.70-69.80; April-June, 73-73.10; July-Sept, 76.20-76.60. Sales, 680 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot 53.25-54.00. Cifs: Dec. 51.25-51.75; Jan. 52.25-52.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Dec, 1,147-1,149; March, 1,146-1,147; May, 1,146-1,149; July, 1,147-1,148; Sept, 1,153-1,156; Dec, 1,169-1,172; March, 1,178-1,190. Sales: 4,054 lots including 10 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).—Nov, 1,111-1,112; Jan, 1,127-1,128; March, 1,125-1,127; May, 1,124-1,125; July, 1,127-1,128; Sept, 1,128-1,129; Nov, 1,126-1,139. Sales: 1,808 lots including 17 options. ICCO prices: daily (Nov 10) 92.05c; indicator price (Nov 11) 5-day average 93.71c. (US cents per lb).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £2 lower at £167; the "whites" price was unchanged at £174. Futures (£ per tonne). Jan, 159.25-159.75; March, 164.40-164.50; May, 167.75-168.00; Aug, 172-172.75; Oct, 176.50-177.00; Jan, 178-181; March, 184.45-185.50. Sales: 2,088 lots. ISA prices (Nov 10): daily 11.65c; 15-day average 11.73c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne).—Dec, 126.50-127.00; Feb, 129.80-129.90; April, 132.50-133.00; June, 134.50-135.20; Aug, 137-137.80; Oct, 138-140; Dec, 138-144. Sales: 143 lots.

WOOL.—NZ crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo).—Dec, 373-380; Jan, 377-379; March, 385-386; May, 392-393; Aug, 406-410; Oct, 411-415; Dec, 417-418; Jan, 420-421; March, 428-430; May, 435-440. Sales, 28 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. United States dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent, Nov, £113.75; Dec, £115.25 trans-shipment east coast sellers. United States hard winter, 13½ per cent, unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob, Dec, £112.50 east coast seller.

MAIZE.—French.—Nov, £127.25; Dec, £129 quoted trans-shipment east coast. South Africa white/optional yellow, Nov, £86.25 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed fob, Nov and Dec, £107; Jan-March, £111 east coast sellers. All cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—BARLEY.—Nov, £102.50; Jan, £104.30; March, £107.60; May, £110.60; Sept, £100.70. Sales, 176 lots. WHEAT.—Nov, £106.05; Jan, £108.70; March, £111.90; May, £115.20; July, £118.55; Sept, £105.50. Sales, 183 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices.—

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	£107.20	£106.70	£100.90
E Mids	£108.70	£106.80	£100.90
N East	£107.10	£105.50	£100.30
Scotland	—	£106	£99.80

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Nov 11. GB cattle 94.70p per KG LW (+5.08): UK sheep 166.07p per KG EST DCW (−2.15): GB pigs 79.43p per KG LW (+0.83). England and Wales: cattle nos up 8.5 per cent, ave price 94.56p (+3.08); sheep nos up 14 per cent, ave price 165.89p (−1.98); pig nos up 0.7 per cent, ave price 79.43p (+0.83). Scotland: cattle nos up 35.5 per cent, ave price 95.21p (+2.95); sheep nos up 17.3 per cent, ave price 150.52p (−7.51).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($US per tonne).—Nov, 327.75-28.00; Dec, 327.25-27.50; Jan, 327.00-27.25; Feb, 327.25-27.50; Mar, 326.25-26.50; Apr, 324.25-25.50; May, 325.50-26.00; June, 326.00-27.00; July 328.00-28.00. Sales, 1,098 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta).—Nov, expired: high £87.10; low £85; Feb, £86.50; April, £97.50; Sales, 388 lots of 40 tonnes each.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crdts	15½%
C. Hoare & Co	*15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSB	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £25,000 13½%, over £50,000 14%.

Akzo dips over nine months

In the third quarter of this year, Akzo, the Dutch manmade fibres giant, swung back into the black, with a net profit of 51.7m guilders (about £11m), compared with a 19.6m guilders (£4m) loss in the third quarter of 1980. But the profit for the first nine months was still lower than 1980s, down from 133.4m guilders to 127.7m guilders. Turnover for the quarter was up from 2,850m guilders to 3,590m guilders and for the nine months from 9,230m guilders to 10,790m guilders. For the nine months, the loss on manmade fibres was reduced from 90m guilders to 3m

Cricket

Cook slaves over a hot wicket and serves up the perfect starter

From Richard Streeton
Bombay, Nov 11

England gave themselves the best possible boost for the more exacting tasks ahead when they opened their Indian tour here today by beating the CCI President's XI by 47 runs in a one-day match. England found runs hard to come by after being put in, but they bowled and fielded far better than their opponents and won with 5.4 overs to spare.

Needing 155 to win in 48 overs, the President's XI were dismissed for 107, with the England bowling figures, and especially those of Underwood, telling their own tale of batsmen slightly overawed by the occasion.

As a trial for the one-day internationals on the touring team's itinerary, the match showed that neither side could reach a rate of 14 overs an hour. England were delayed at the eleventh hour by a last-wicket stand between Nayak and Contractor and the match finished just before five o'clock.

By then the light was starting to fade and the shadows cast by newly-built flats outside the Brabourne Stadium had almost reached the square. It seems certain that England will renew their plea for the one-day internationals to be 45-over games rather than the 50 scheduled in this match.

Overnight there had come from Bangalore another political scare when a body called the Civil Rights Vigilance Committee filed a High Court petition claiming that the Indian government's decision to grant Boycott and Cook entry visas was legally wrong and should be revoked. Indian cricket officials, however, assured the tour management that the body responsible were merely seeking publicity. (The High Court of Karnataka state dismissed the suit by the Civil Rights Vigilance Committee over the entry visas issue, AP reports. It was ruled that, since the visas were issued on the basis of a central government decision, the Karnataka High Court had no jurisdiction to admit the suit.)

Such matters were largely forgotten, however, as a packed 40,000 crowd roared their encouragement at almost everything.

By Indian standards there was a good deal of grass left on the pitch, which was still damp from overnight dew when the game began. England's batting, however, reflected the fact that less than a week ago they were still in London.

What the outcome would have been without a stay of two and a quarter hours by Cook hardly bears thinking about. Cook more than anyone else had his difficult moments, but he struggled on tenaciously. He shared invaluable stands of 59 for the third wicket with Gower in 16 overs, and 36 for the fourth wicket with Fletcher in six overs.

Later, having been missed twice and having played numerous false strokes in between some good ones, Cook's wicket was the first of five to fall in six overs for 10 runs.

England were 53 for two after 20 overs and at no stage then or later did the innings look like gathering momentum. Certainly there was never any question of a closing slog. Underwood and Lever added 20 runs in seven overs, mostly with dabbed singles through the vacant slip positions, before Underwood was out as the clock nudged one o'clock, which brought an end to the first three and a half hour playing period.

With Willis anxiously watching at the other end, Lever played a maiden from Kapil Dev, the forty-eighth and last over before time ran out. By not being dismissed, England had restricted their opponents to the same number of overs in their innings, such are the rules of Indian one-day cricket.

Kapil Dev invariably bowled with hostility, Contractor improved after a wayward start, and Patil, the gentlest of gentle medium pacers, reaped the benefit of the England wariness.

It was Shastri, India's 19-year-old left-arm spinner, and Nayak, a tidy seamer, who put the most effective break on England's ambitions. Shastri was obtaining considerable turn after the game had been in progress just 90 minutes. He is 6ft 2in tall and varies his pace and line with great subtlety. Nayak dismissed Gatting and Taylor with successive balls and at that stage he had figures which read 6—3—4—2.

One of the day's biggest roars came in only the third over, when Boycott received a brute of a ball from Kapil Dev—an inswinger that pitched outside the off stump and whipped across his body. Boycott managed to glance it, but the wicketkeeper took a good diving catch to his left.

Gooch had punished anything loose on the leg side, albeit in the air, before he mis-timed a stroke off his body and was caught at mid-off. Gower's timing was in good order, but he could not pierce the field and he finally pulled a catch straight to short midwicket. Cook's 31-over stay ended when he swept against the spin and was held at backward short leg.

Earlier, when on 17, Cook survived one unusual incident when he swept unsuccessfully against Shastri. The wicketkeeper took the ball on the legside and next moment was pointing to the bails on the ground. He seemed to be appealing for a stumping chance and when that was turned down, there seemed to be a suggestion that Cook had been bowled. With the bails on the ground in front of the wicket that was improbable. The umpires consulted, however, and Cook remained.

When Cook was finally dismissed the slump was on, with Fletcher beaten on the back foot by a quicker ball, Gatting swishing fatally outside the off stump, Taylor playing on next ball, and Botham clipping a catch to square leg.

Willis bowled six fiery overs at the start of the President's XI's innings, but it was Botham who claimed the first wicket when he found a good inswinger to beat Shrikant. After Vajuvendra Singh had temporarily retired with a pulled calf muscle, Patil was tempted into an indiscreet hook.

The wickets kept falling, but it was Gavaskar's scalp that was wanted and after 95 minutes he was fifth man out when he fell to Gooch's second ball. It lifted a shade and Gavaskar gave a catch to deep gully. Gooch went on to claim two more wickets with some persevering seam bowling.

Cook: shared invaluable stands with Gower and Fletcher.

ENGLAND

G Boycott, c Zulfiqar Parkar, b Kapil Dev	1
G A Gooch, c Shastri, b Contractor	15
G Cook, c Kapil Dev, b Shastri	56
D I Gower, c Yajurvindra Singh, b Shastri	21
*K W R Fletcher, l-b-w, b Shastri	18
M W Gatting, c Zulfiqar Parkar, b Nayak	2
I T Botham, c Shastri, b Contractor	3
†R W Taylor, b Nayak	0
J K Lever, not out	12
D L Underwood, b Nayak	7
R G D Willis, not out	1
Extras (b 6, l-b 7, w 1, n-b 4)	18
Total (9 wkts, 48 overs)	154

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—13, 2—37, 3—86, 4—122, 5—126, 6—130, 7—130, 8—132, 9—152.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev, 9—2—21—1; Contractor, 9—0—34—2; Nayak, 10—3—17—3; Patil, 10—1—43—0; Shastri, 10—2—21—3.

PRESIDENT'S XI

*S M Gavaskar, c Botham, b Gooch	21
B K Srikath, l-b-w, b Botham	5
Yajurvindra Singh, l-b-w, b Gooch	8
S M Patil, c Willis, b Botham	4
Kirti Azad, c Gatting, b Underwood	1
M Gimilal, c Taylor, b Lever	1
Kapil Dev, c Boycott, b Underwood	0
R Shastri, run out	14
S Nayak, l-b-w, b Willis	18
†Zulfiqar Parkar, l-b-w, b Gooch	0
H Contractor, not out	13
Extras (lb 10, w 7, nb 2)	19
Total (42.2 overs)	107

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—9, 2—30, 3—32, 4—50, 5—50, 6—57, 7—65, 8—73, 9—78.

BOWLING: Willis, 9.2—3—19—1; Botham, 8—3—15—2; Lever, 7—2—24—1; Underwood, 10—4—10—3; Gooch, 8—2—20—3.

Disease of the spine that could end Hogg's career

Adelaide, Nov 11.—A spine disease could end Rodney Hogg's cricket career, the Australian fast bowler said today. Hogg, aged 30, has suffered from back trouble since he was a teenager and an Adelaide orthopaedic surgeon has diagnosed his condition as Scheuermann's disease, a long-term degeneration of the spine.

The illness restricted Hogg's Test appearances during this year's Australian tour of England and will almost certainly prevent him playing for South Australia in the current Sheffield Shield season. Hogg swims and exercises in an attempt to strengthen his back but broke down in a minor club match here on Saturday.

He has not ruled out a possible return to first-class cricket next season but said: "At my age it would be pointless to persevere next season if my back doesn't improve after the exercise programme."

☐ West Indies stepped up their practise schedule here today for the first game of their tour against South Australia, starting in Adelaide on Friday. West Indies were finally able to use outdoor nets after being restricted to indoor practice this week because of wet weather and soggy pitches. The team manager, Steve Camacho, said the side for the match against South Australia would be selected after tomorrow's practice.

The West Indies are sure to field a strong side with only one game after the South Australian match—against a Victorian country team at Mildura—before their first World Series Cup game against Pakistan in Melbourne on Saturday week.

The fast bowlers, Roberts, Holding, Croft and Garner are likely to be used against South Australia.—Agencies.

☐ The West Indian Test fast bowler Wayne Daniel has been chosen to make his first appearance in the Sheffield Shield competition. He will represent West Australia in games against Queensland in Brisbane and against Victoria in Melbourne. Daniel was not selected in the West Indies team now in Australia.

Pakistan worried by fitness of key players

Perth, Nov 11.—Pakistan faced injury worries over key players as they prepared for the First Test against Australia starting here on Friday. The fast bowler Imran Khan, who has been troubled by a strained Achilles tendon, is confident of being fit but Zaheer Abbas is likely to miss the match and there are doubts about the fitness of Majid Khan.

Zaheer, a key batsman, is suffering from a fractured rib and Majid, who hit a century in the opening tour game here, has a strained thigh muscle. Zaheer, who was hit by a rising delivery from Jeff Thomson in last week's match with Queensland, said today: "My rib still hurts and I really don't want to risk aggravating the injury by playing prematurely." He will see a top specialist tonight.

Majid did not practise today. The captain Javed Miandad said he was resting and added: "He'll be fit to play."

Australia, with Greg Chappell reappointed captain in their 12-strong squad, have no fitness problems.

Hockey

Captain saves HA from the embarrassment of defeat

By Sydney Friskin

Cambridge Univ 2 HA XI 2

The task force which the Hockey Association raised for their annual match at Fenner's just managed to hold Cambridge University to a draw yesterday. The face-saving act was performed two minutes before the end by David Westcott, the captain, with a neat conversion of a penalty stroke.

With eight international players in the side—four from the World Cup squad—the HA team were expected to overrun the young and inexperienced undergraduates. But despite the HA's superior play there was little cohesion and not a goal came from open play. They were unlucky, however, in the 14th minute when the umpire blew the whistle to award them a penalty stroke a split second before Kerly had put the ball in the net. The stroke, taken by Richard Dodds, was well saved by the Cambridge goalkeeper.

Dodds, who captained Cambridge last year, had a hand in both HA goals. He scored the first from a short corner to level the scores and it was his hit from a long one which led to the vital penalty stroke. With the outlawing of hand stopping, the mechanics of the short corner have disappeared and Dodds has taken to the do-it-yourself method, by stopping the hit from the line and firing away unassisted.

At least Cambridge showed how to score from combined play even allowing for the fact that they were lucky. Scott came across from the right in the 19th minute and his shot, directed across the face of the goal, went in off Gallimore's stick.

The second half was barely a minute old when Dodds redressed the balance by converting a short corner. The HA then began to dominate and were helped by Duthie, abandoning his post at the back to rush into the firing line. But Cambridge were never overawed and went ahead again in the 19th minute of this period from a penalty stroke converted by Atkinson who scooped high into the net.

But in the last ten minutes the HA came into the game with a serious threat, forcing one short corner after another. Farr, the Cambridge goalkeeper, saved well off Precious before conceding the long corner from which Dodds was able to earn a penalty stroke. A defender's foot had intervened and Westcott came in to finish the task.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: R W Farr (Kingston GS and Ridley Hall); A C Locke (Burnham GS and St Catharine's), N Dodds (Millfield and St John's), J I M Batsor (Haberdasher's Askes and St John's), T J Walker (Stuart Melville's and Pembroke), R Miles (Kingston GS and Trinity), D G M Atkinson (Millfield and Downing) capt., R J Scott (Kingston GS and St Catharine's), M Lewis (Cardiff HS and St Catharine's), J Case (King Edward VI Chelmsford and Fitzwilliam), N D Gregory (King Edward VII, King's Lynn and St Catharine's).

H A XI: D Morgan (Suffolk); J L Duthie (Southgate), M Precious (Hounslow), M Gallimore (Guildford), A Wallace (Southgate), J Cox (Bognor), R D A Dodds (Southgate), D G Westcott (Ladykillers) capt., M Hunt (Birmingham University), S Kerly (Southgate), S Batchelor (Southgate).

Umpires: B Humphrey and M Sandells (Eastern Counties).

Gymnastics

Miss Comaneci left out of Romanian team

Moscow, Nov 11.—Nadia Comaneci, of Romania, may miss the world championships in Moscow later this month because she is out of form, the Soviet daily sports newspaper, *Sovietsky Sport*, reported today.

Quoting from an article which appeared in its Romanian counterpart, *Sportul*, the Soviet newspaper said that Miss Comaneci, aged 20, had taken part in only one important event this year, the World Student Games in Bucharest, where she took the individual gold medal.

The Romanian coaches, Anastasia Alvu and Octavianne Bielu, say that she is not at her best and they have therefore temporarily omitted her from the national team. *Sovietsky Sport*, however, say there is still a chance that the girl who has dominated world gymnastics since the Montreal Olympics in 1976 will be included at the last minute.

If Miss Comaneci does miss the championships, from November 23 to 29, much of the burden of the Romanian challenge to the Russians will fall on the shoulders of Christina Grigoras, aged 17. She has taken part in most of the big gymnastics tournaments this year and her results have been impressive.

Her achievements have included a gold medal for the vault and two silvers for the overall individual and uneven bars at the European championships in Madrid in May, behind Maxi Gnauk, of East Germany, and a victory over the American gymnast, Kathy Johnson, in the London tournament a few weeks earlier.

Football

Villa allow themselves to be drawn into an artless struggle

By Norman Fox

Leicester City 0 Aston Villa 0

Being already established among the leading eight teams in the European Cup this season gave Aston Villa no uplifting sense of superiority as they laboured to a third-round replay in the comparatively mundane League Cup at Filbert Street last night.

There was never a hint of an imperious attitude, as they allowed themselves to be drawn into an artless struggle from which Leicester City, for their grit, emerged with slightly the greater credit.

Even by Villa's inauspicious league standards, this ugly, disjointed performance in an equally unattractive cup tie was disappointing. They capitulated to Leicester's youthful, aggressive enthusiasm and only occasionally offered moves worthy of champions. The odd sprint by Morley, back heeled pass by Withe to Shaw and light evasion of tackles by Cowans amounted to the merest glimpse of their capabilities.

Although Leicester's rugged determination was disturbing, Villa could hardly blame it for their defensive insecurity. Their mistakes were legion. For a period of 15 minutes in the first half they rarely played a constructive pass out of defence. Lynex proved more dangerous on the Leicester right wing than Morley, perhaps the new England winger, on the Villa left. As a result Withe usually received the ball when O'Neill was charging into him, often from behind.

An early excellent deflection on to the cross bar by Wallington from his own colleague O'Neill, kept Leicester in contention. Lynex pestered Gibson until both lost self control. Lynex, already in the book, escaped the referee's attention when thrusting a foot at Gibson on the ground, but Gibson could not be ignored when sprinting 20 yards to bring down Lynex. It was not always that sort of game.

Villa's discomfort in defence was particularly acute when Swain passed back directly to Melrose who was only denied a goal by the menacing advance of Rimmer, who forced him to release the ball early, and Evans mopped up.

Difficult though it was to contemplate a deterioration of standards, the game drifted deeper into insignificance. With wild tackles doing damage to both football and footballers, Mortimer was a casualty in a second half that contained a splendid leaping save by Rimmer, pushing MacDonald's header over the bar, and a long run by Morley, culminating in a shot that did not improve his international prospects. Rimmer also ensured a replay (on November 25) by taking the ball off Wilson's feet four minutes from the end.

LEICESTER CITY: M Wallington; T Williams, N Lee, K MacDonald, G Scott, J O'Neill, S Lynex, I Melrose, G Lineker, T Wilson, R Smith.

ASTON VILLA: J Rimmer; K Swain, C Gibson, A Evans, G Williams, D Mortimer, D Bremner, G Shaw, P Withe, G Cowans, A Morley.

Referee: J Deakin (Bedford).

Fashanu edges Forest nearer another final

By Gerald Richmond

Blackburn R 0 Nottingham F 1

Nottingham Forest eased their way into the last sixteen of the Football League Cup by virtue of Fashanu's goal at Ewood Park last night. Just when it seemed that Forest had thrown a blanket over the game as well as the opposition, Blackburn Rovers had two late chances to earn at least a replay. Both fell to Garner, who put the first wide with only Shilton to beat, but hit the second truly. This time, Shilton arched to turn the ball over the bar for a quite brilliant save. Forest's methods were those which have brought them so much success in this competition but, in those last wobbling minutes the execution was faulty.

Aas, who fouled Garner, seemed fortunate that the early free kick was awarded outside the penalty area. Lowey's shot was deflected over but, in an untidy opening, few of the threats were turned into positive action. A fine cross from Anderson was knocked down by Fashanu to Ward, who was outside. It was, though, enough to raise doubts about Blackburn's defence and after Shilton had collected a low shot from Brotherston, these were confirmed. Ward, on Forest's left, shrugged away a challenge from Fazackerley and created space for himself before chipping the ball across delicately. Fashanu headed into the roof of the net for only his second goal since Forest acquired his services at a cost of more than £1 million.

Fazackerley did rather better with a stretching tackle when Ward came again and McGovern had a rare header collected by Gennoe before Forest began to stray in defence. Shilton, though, can be the difference between winning and losing. After Lowey had beaten Needham, he dropped on the low centre and was off his line like a flash to smother a shot from Garner. Initially, Garner had plenty to shoot at; by the time he had drawn back his foot, there was little of the goal to be seen. Forest spent most of the second half funnelling back and quietly picking off Blackburn's attacks while occasionally bursting forward themselves.

Robertson, although not at his best, played Fashanu away down the left and, from the centre, Ward hit the foot of the post. Ward, filling in for Wallace, who is suspended, had another chance to score when Gray put him through but allowed himself to be caught. A centre from Proctor scraped the bar and there were cautions for Burke, Needham and Keeley, but the game appeared to be in Forest's pocket until the closing minutes. Shilton did extremely well to block a cross shot from Brotherston but the memory was of his last save from Garner. That earned Forest their passage and put them a step nearer a fourth League Cup final in five

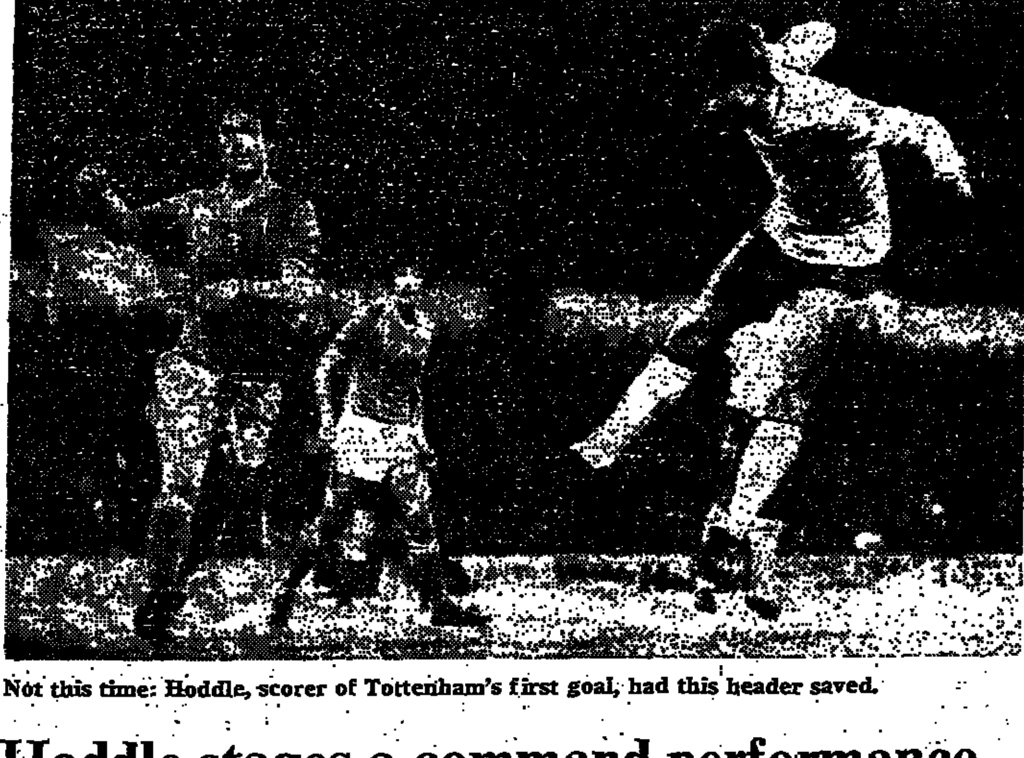
BLACKBURN ROVERS: T Gennoe; J Branagan, M Rathbone, K Stonehouse, G Keeley, D Fazackerley, I Miller, M Burke, J Lowey, S Garner, N Brotherston.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P Shilton; V Anderson, B Gunn, J McGovern, D Needham, E Aas, S Gray, P Ward, J Fashanu, M Proctor, J Robertson.

Referee: D Shaw (Sandbach).

Today's fixtures

FOOTBALL: Uxbridge v Arsenal XI.
RUGBY UNION: Lydney v Royal Air Force (7.0).
BADMINTON: RAF Championships (RAF St Athan).
CROSS-COUNTRY: London Services CC League (Mill Hill).
LAWN TENNIS: Benson & Hedges (Wembley Arena).
RACKETS: Amateur Doubles (at Queen's Club).
SQUASH RACKETS: Redwood Lodge Event (Redwood Lodge SRC, Bristol).



Not this time: Hoddle, scorer of Tottenham's first goal, had this header saved.

Hoddle stages a command performance

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Tottenham H 2 Wrexham 0

Ron Greenwood has a problem or two, in spite of the welcome news from Switzerland last night. Since he announced his World Cup squad on Tuesday, a pair of young midfield players who are not considered probabilities for the game at Wembley next week have been outstanding. On Tuesday night it was Devonshire, of West Ham United. Last night it was Hoddle, of Tottenham Hotspur.

To list his golden moments is to account for Tottenham's attacks, apart from one chance set up by Ardiles for Archibald, so complete was his display. Troubled by a mysterious back complaint he returned to the side and, with Ardiles and Roberts also recovering from injury, it was the spur that Tottenham needed to tackle traditionally awkward Welsh opponents.

Wrexham, who put West Ham out of the FA Cup last season, had previously visited White Hart Lane twice in cup competitions (the two clubs have never met in the league) and had avoided defeat on both occasions. Here, though, in the third round of the League Cup, there was never any doubt that their proud record was at an end. Hoddle saw to that.

Within 10 minutes he had seen his header blocked on the line (without the benefit of the strongest pair of binoculars it was impossible to judge the identity of the defender). Within 15 minutes he had stretched Wrexham's goalkeeper for the first time with a curling free kick. Within 20 minutes he had put Tottenham in the lead with another free kick that bent its way around Niedzwiecki.

Hoddle also had a foot in Tottenham's second goal in the closing minutes, by acting as a wall for Galvin to cross. Crooks, at the front of the queue at the far post, ducked and allowed Hughton to head home. In between, Hoddle's colourful evening was almost as flawless as it could have been.

Effortless 50-yard passes into Galvin's stride, dummies, another free kick that set up the best chance for Miller—they were all there, and more. One day, perhaps, he will be able to take the confidence that he shows for his club and wrap it around the shirt he wears for his country.

It was as well for Tottenham that Hoddle turned in a command performance. Although they allowed Wrexham only one shooting chance of note, from McNeil, Spurs are still palpably uncomfortable at home and will continue to be so as long as their defensive distribution—Perryman's apart—is so appalling. Hughton, I particular, would do well to use the long break ahead to practice.

Wrexham, in the lower reaches of the second division, have won only one of their away League matches and they were thoroughly outclassed. Not only that but they also lost their own World Cup representative, Jones, of Wales, who was sent off for, what appeared to be a forearm smash on Archibald 10 minutes from the end.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; C Hughton, P Miller, G Roberts, M Hazard, S Perryman, O Ardiles, S Archibald, A Galvin, G Hoddle, G Crooks.

WREXHAM: E Niedzwiecki; J Jones, F Hill, S Dowman, M Cegielski, J Arkwright, J Fox, I Edwards, A Vinter, D Carrodus, D McNeil.

Referee: D Hedges (Oxfordshire).

Wigan reach fourth round for first time

By Martin Tyler

Wigan Athletic 4 Chelsea 2

Chelsea were struck down for a second time by the same source at Springfield Park last night. Wigan Athletic, winners of a famous F.A. Cup tie between the clubs two years ago, again overcame the discrepancy in status in a League Cup contest of traditional passion and romance.

Much of the drama was squeezed into a thrilling first half punctuated by five goals. Yet, the easiest opportunity fell to Lee after only nine minutes; freed through a square defence by Fillery's thoughtful pass, the Chelsea striker contrived a poor attempt at finishing the move. Four minutes later, Bumstead was not so wasteful, though it took him three attempts to pass Tunks whose spectacular attempt at protecting his goal deserved better fortune.

Wigan's retort to such adversity could scarcely have been more impressive; three goals in 11 minutes, two of them of the highest quality fom 18-year-old midfield player, Mark Wignall.

Wignall chipped his first-ever senior goal from 20 yards over Steve Francis, who was preferred in Chelsea's goal to the eccentric Borota. The 17-year-old apprentice goalkeeper was left similarly helpless when Wignall topped that masterpiece with an arrowing drive from five yards further out. Francis might have wondered with some justification why his back four had retreated from Wignall as he shaped to shoot.

Sanwiched in between these two thoroughly excellent goals was a mishit effort from Evans that after Sheldon, looking offside, had rolled inside Francis's far post been allowed to cross.

The next twist, though, came at the other end. Fillery, whose goals had tamed Southampton in the second round, saw his free kick take a huge deflection off the wall and leave Tunks again cursing his luck.

Chelsea kept in touch for only 19 minutes into the second half. Sheldon danced to the by-line and Bradd added to the catalogue of goals he has claimed over the years at the far post. Wilkins, well positioned to avert the danger, was muscled aside by Bradd's challenge. Fillery, the most entitled to be aggrieved at his team-mate's shortcomings, immediately showed his frustration in a foul on Barrow that produced a caution.

Rhoades-Brown, who flitted on the peripheries for much of the game, might have altered its balance. He picked a central route into the clear but Tunks preserved the status quo with an important save. Chelsea's final ploy offered Droy, the substitute, as an auxiliary attacker. Lloyd, however, proved that his ample build was perfect to withstand that physical threat and Wigan's player-manager joyously led his side into the fourth round of the League Cup for the first time in the club's history.

WIGAN ATHLETIC: R Tunks; J McMahon, A Cribley, M Wignall, L Lloyd, C Methven, K Sheldon, G Barrow, L Bradd, P Houghton, C Evans.

CHELSEA: S Francis; G Wilkins, T Isun, M Droy, C Hutchings, I Britton, C Pates, G Chivers, P Rhodes-Brown, J Bumstead, C Lee, C Walker, M Fillery.

Referee: K A Redfern (Whitley Bay).

Yesterday's results

League Cup Third round

Blackburn 14,752	(0) 0	Nottm F Fashanu	(1) 1
Everton O'Keefe	(0) 1	Oxford U 14,910	(0) 0
Leicester 19,806	(0) 0	Aston Villa	(0) 0
Man City McDonald, Tueart 2	(1) 3	Northamptn Mahoney 21,139	(0) 1
Sunderland 11,139	(0) 0	C Palace Cannon	(0) 1
Tottenham Hoddle, Hughton	(1) 2	Wrexham 24,084	(0) 0
Wigan Wignall 2, Evans, Bradd 12,063	(3) 4	Chelsea Bumstead, Fillery	(2) 2

Fourth division

Blackpool Noble, Morris 4,785	(2) 2	Port Vale Tartt 2, N Chamberlain	(2) 3

Scottish premier division

Dundee U Sturrock, Bannon	(1) 2	Rangers 12,000	(0) 0

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Kettering 5, Stafford 0; Maidstone 3, Trowbridge 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Mossley 4, Netherfield 3. Cup: Second round: Oswestry 5, Buxton 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Cup, third round: Bedford 1, Aylesbury 2.
KENT SENIOR CUP: Folkestone 1, Canterbury 0.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Hereford 2 Oxford 3; Reading 1, Swindon 1.
FA YOUTH CUP: First round replay: St Albans City . Haringey Borough 3.
MIDLAND LEAGUE: Sutton Town 0, Alfreton 6.
WORLD CUP: Group One: Bulgaria 0, Austria 0. Group Four: Switzerland 0, Romania 0. Group Seven: East Germany 5, Malta 1.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: FA XI 0, Oxford University 2; London University 1, Southern Amateur League 4; Cambridge University 0, Ipswich Town XI 3.

With an optimistic look forward to Spain and the 1982 World Cup finals, the Northern Ireland manager Billy Bingham has called up little-known Gerry Mullan and Gerry McElhinney for next week's decisive game against Israel.

NORTHERN IRELAND SQUAD: P. Jennings (Arsenal), J. Platt (Middlesbrough), J. Nicholl (Manchester United), C. Nicholl (Southampton), J. O'Neill (Leicester City), M. Donaghy (Luton Town), S. Nelson (Brighton and Hove Albion), G. McElhinney (Bolton Wanderers), T. Cassidy (Burnley), D. McCreedy (Tulsa Roughnecks), S. McIlroy (Manchester Utd), M. O'Neill (Manchester City), N. Brotherston (Blackburn Rovers), G. Armstrong (Watford), W. Hamilton (Burnley), T. Anderson (Linfield), G. Mullan (Everton).

No manager but Palace still make progress

Crystal Palace may be without a manager, having dismissed Dario Gradi on Tuesday, but that could not prevent the London club from registering one of the night's surprises in the third round of the League Cup with a shock 1—0 win over Sunderland, the first division's bottom club.

A goal on the hour by Jim Cannon, their captain, took Palace through but with better finishing the second division club could have won more convincingly. Under the caretaker management of Steve Kember, Palace had the better of the exchanges in the first half only for Hughes and Langley to waste clear cut chances.

Sunderland improved after the interval but it was Palace who scored the deciding goal. Siddall failed to hold a shot from Smillie and when Price's follow-up was parried by the goalkeeper, Cannon forced the ball home.

Sunderland, who brought on Buckley in place of Rowell, missed a great chance of forcing a replay after 71 minutes when Bowyer had a shot kicked off the line in a goalmouth scramble. But from the rebound, West hit a post from less than two yards when it appeared easier to score.

Tueart saved Manchester City's blushes with two late goals the 3—1 win over Northampton Town, Hutchinson, the substitute, having provided the cross on each occasion.

McDonald had put City ahead in the 42nd minute but Mahoney—on loan from Fulham—beat Corrigan with a 30 yard lob for the 52nd minute equaliser. It then took a world class save from Corrigan to stop Mahoney's header from giving the gallant fourth division side the lead.

Everton made equally hard work of it, scrambling through 1—0 against Oxford with a 71st minute goal by O'Keefe. The third division side enjoyed long spells of superiority but lacked finish.

Goddard new incentive for youngsters

Paul Goddard's promotion to the senior squad will be the spur for England's under-21 team next week when they go in search of the point against Hungary which will take them into the last eight of the Uefa championship.

The West Ham United striker was only a second half substitute when the under-21 side were held in Norway in September, but his elevation to the full England squad this week will encourage the rest of the young players in the match at Nottingham Forest next Tuesday.

The party for the under-21 game includes several players with experience at that level and who could still break into the senior squad in the near future. Two such men are Fashanu, of Nottingham Forest, and Shaw, of Aston Villa.

Lee, the Liverpool midfield player, is missing from the squad because he is serving a suspension after being sent off in England's 2—1 win over Hungary last summer.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 SQUAD: J Lukic (Leeds), C Woods (Norwich), T Fenwick (QPR), W Gilbert (Crystal Palace), M Smith (Sheffield Wednesday), T Caton (Manchester City), N Reid (Manchester City), S McCall (Ipswich), R Moses (Manchester United), S MacKenzie (West Bromwich), G Owen (West Bromwich), M Proctor (Nottingham Forest), A Heath (Stoke), J Fashanu (Nottingham Forest), G Thompson (Coventry), G Shaw (Aston Villa), S Moran (Southampton).

Swiss gain draw

Switzerland gave the England manager, Ron Greenwood, a 60th birthday present last night by holding Romania to a 0—0 draw at Berne, in the crucial World Cup qualifying group four match. The result means that England have now only to draw with Hungary at Wembley on November 18 to reach the finals in Spain.

GROUP FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary	7	4	2	1	13	7	10
Romania	8	2	4	2	5	5	8
England	7	3	1	3	12	8	7
Switzerland	8	2	3	3	9	12	7

Final match: Nov 18, England v Hungary.

Rackets

Pace of brothers too much for opponents

The Nicholls brothers, Mark and Paul, entered the semi-final round of the amateur rackets doubles championship, sponsored by Celestion Loudspeakers at Queen's Club, London, yesterday. In a robust contest, as well played as any in the event so far, they beat Peter Seabrook and Robert Sutton by 15—13, 15—11, 15—11, 15—13, and what little luck was going went their way.

All four games were, at one time or another, in the balance. Good serving by Sutton took his side to 12—3 in the first game. A similar spell by Sutton in the second recovered a deficit of 3—10 to gain a slender lead of 11—10. In both games it was Paul Nicholls who thwarted them—with a run of 12 in the first game and one of four, from 10—11 to 14—10, in the second. He was the more reliable server of the brothers, though at times even he tended to cut the ball too heavily, making it fly.

The third and fourth games were also in the balance. By that time Seabrook and Sutton were trying to slow down the play against a couple of strong hitters, especially Mark Nicholls, whose forehand, given a reasonable stroke, is lethal. But Seabrook and Sutton having fallen behind, lacked the confidence and ability to do so and inevitably remain in a hitting match.

Mark Nicholls was the dominating player. He despatched anything hitable down the forehand wall, and defended admirably on the back hand when his brother was out of position. Paul Nicholls was sound on the back hand and better than that when half way up the court taking the ball off the side wall.

The brothers have the sharpest eyes and quick reflexes but neither is a nimble mover and that was something Sutton and Seabrook were unable to exploit. The losers were beaten by genuine pace.

Today Geoffrey Atkins and Tom Pugh play Christopher Ohlson and Peter Begg for a place in the semi-final as do Charles Hue Williams and John Prenn and Christopher Worledge and Dick Bridgeman.

Rugby Union

Australians show the best way forward

By Alan Gibson

Devon/Cornwall 6 Australians 49

The Australians won their fifth match in succession without much difficulty last night. The margin was seven goals, a try and a penalty goal, to two penalty goals. Although it sounds so easy, it was a good win, because the Counties, without much natural talent to command, did not play badly. They produced a spirited burst or two early on, and clung on well towards the end, after a time when disintegration had seemed possible.

It had been a wet day in Exeter, and the evening was damp and chilly, though the crowd was the largest I can remember seeing there in recent years—getting on for ten thousand. It was the kind of weather we used to associate with rampaging West Country packs, but they do not now seem to breed many like Bonzo Johns of Redruth, or Bert Jones of Barnstaple.

There were nine Cornishmen in the Counties' side. I mention this approvingly, not because of any Cornish bias, but because I remember times when such sides were chosen on a straight basis of seven each, and the fifteenth preferably aboard ship in the middle of the Tamar.

The Australians' supremacy lay partly in their forwards, but even more in the way they have learned to back each other up, so that they always seemed to have an extra man, not only in attack, but in defence.

Several of their tries came from movements by the Counties which had a few seconds earlier appeared promising. To develop this attribute is encouraging for any side at this stage of a tour.

In the first few minutes there was a try by Parker, converted by McLean, but the Counties fought back for a while with two penalty goals by Martin, and with almost twenty minutes gone were still level. But they were being stretched. Further tries came from Moon, Cox, D'Arcy, McLean converting two and also kicking a penalty.

D'Arcy's try was a really splendid one, a long move going right to left to right again, with forwards and backs joining in. Cox's was a good one too, though the Cornish section of the crowd disapproved when it was announced as having been scored by Michael Cox instead of Mitchell; every Cornishman knows that "Mitchell is no more than a Cornish form of Michael" which the Australians have adopted because they were lucky enough to have some Cornish immigrants.

In the second half there were further tries by Moon, and at the end Slack, McLean kicking all three. The Counties had begun to get together, and look less than a scratch side, but all they could really do was to offer stout defence, and from time to time it was not quite stout enough.

DEVON AND CORNWALL: C Martin; B Trevaskis (Bath), I Perkins (Wasps), S Donovan (Exeter), K Butterworth (Torquay), B Jenkin (Hayle), N Coombes (Plymouth Albion), W Davies (Devonport Services), B Priday, T Harris (Exeter), P Thornley (Exeter University), C Durant (Camborne), R Corin (St Ives), G Still (Redruth), B Spurrell (Bath, captain).

AUSTRALIANS: R Gould; M Cox, A Slack, M Hawker, B Moon; P E McLean, A Parker; A D'Arcy, L Walker, D Curran, C Roche, A Shaw (captain), P W McLean, S Poidevin, M Loane.

Referee: G Inglis (Scotland).

Cusworth's injury-time try hurts Counties most of all

By John Clemison

N Midlands 16 Notts, Lincs and Derby 13

A well-taken try in injury time by Les Cusworth, the former England stand off, took North Midlands to a memorable victory over the three counties under the Moseley floodlights last night. As winners of the Midlands group, they now play Middlesex in the semi-finals of the Thorn-EMI county championship at Moseley on November 28.

The try came not a moment too soon for North Midlands as, up to that point, it seemed the Counties would sneak through by virtue of Hare's third penalty goal, and that following the most senseless of errors.

Twice, in the second half, the Counties looked set to go through. With the sides level at 10—10 at the interval, and with a try and two penalty goals apiece, Counties would, under the rules of the competition, go through as the visiting side.

Counties seemed to state an even firmer claim on the Midland title after an hour of the match. A penalty was awarded to North Midlands in their own half, and Cusworth shaped to take it. Suddenly, however, he was surrounded by Counties forwards, who seemed to see him tap the ball.

North Midlands panicked, and Sadler, trying to retrieve the situation, gave away a penalty for passing off the ground. Words exchanged, and Mr Welsby awarded another 10 metres to Counties. It was more than enough for Hare to be able to stroke over his third penalty goal to put Counties 13—10 ahead.

In a richly entertaining game, however, one suspected that Counties had no right to put North out of the competition. They did indeed score a spectacular first half try, fashioned by Northard and scored by Holdstock, who sidestepped Akenhead to touch down. But their reliance on Hare's boot to keep them ahead was too great for comfort.

So there were signs all the way through that North's second phase attack would eventually bring them reward. Bowland and Barr took control of the tail of the line out, and of the loose, and Morley and Cusworth were providing some delightful, if at times predictable variations at half back.

Outside him, Cusworth was forever trying scissors movements with Lawson and Bowland and so they too could be stopped at source. Indeed, North's only try in the first half was no more than a bustling effort by Sadler after Lawrence had failed to break the defence.

But as the end grew near, Counties looked increasingly vulnerable. A scrum close to the Counties' line in injury time brought the North their last chance to score. The pack heaved, the ball came out and, as expected, Morley went for the line alone. Counties had seen it all before, and went hard at him. What took them by surprise was the agility of Cusworth, who seized the loose ball and popped it over the line. Akenhead converted, having earlier kicked two fine penalty goals.

NORTH MIDLANDS (Moseley except where indicated): R Akenhead; M Picken, R Lawson, D Shorrock, M Lawrence, L Cusworth, captain (Leicester), S Morley, T Corless, G Cox, S Acaster, R Tuckwood, J Davidson, R Sadler (Coventry), R Bar, I Bowland.

NOTTS, LINCS AND DERBY (all Nottingham except where indicated): W Hare (Leicester); S Holdstock, M Northard, captain, A Bennett, C Pitts, S Hodgkinson, D Hunt, R Lucas, B Moore, J Rankin, M Grindle, P Nixon, P Cook, G Rees, R Salmon.

Referee: A Welsby (Manchester).

Gloucester are beaten at their own game

By Gordon Allan

Cambridge Univ 20 Gloucester 12

Gloucester scored 46 points against Oxford University recently. There was a different story at Grange Road yesterday when Cambridge won by a goal, two penalty goals and two tries to two goals. It was only the second defeat for Gloucester in 20 matches this season.

Budge Rogers, chairman of the England selectors, was watching the proceedings. Cambridge led 7—0 after 15 minutes, Gloucester led 12—7 at half-time, and Cambridge defied expectation by going from strength to strength in the second half. The Cambridge forwards stood up manfully to their task and did not cave in during the last quarter, as Oxford reportedly did.

Rose kicked an angled penalty for Cambridge before Cooke intercepted to score their first try. McGahey's tackle shook Ellis so much that the ball flew up into Cooke's hands and he ran in from 40 metres, stepping out of Tunstall's tackle on the way.

Gloucester then scored two tries in rapid succession, both of which Ford converted. Jones twisted and turned through a bevy of Cambridge players for the first—a real Cliff Morgan effort, this—and made the break for the second, scored by Williams who juggled with the final pass but held on.

Rose kicked a simple penalty at the beginning of the second half. A heel against the head by Johnson initiated a try—by Boyd-Moss soon afterwards. From Cullen the ball went through the centres to Roxburgh. He was stopped near the line, but Boyd-Moss got over. Allchurch, like Macklin, a tiger in broken play, scored Cambridge's third try in the last five minutes. Baker fumbled the ball at a Gloucester heel, Bennett pounded through, and Allchurch finished the job, Rose converted.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: *M Rose (Loughborough GS and Magdalene); B Roxburgh (Blundells and Sidney Sussex), *A McGahey (King's, Taunton, and Fitzwilliam), *R Boyd-Moss (Bedford and Magdalene), S Cooke (Stonyhurst and Magdalene), *B Davies (King Edward VI, Stourbridge and Selwyn, captain), *J Cullen (Christ's Hospital and Downing); *J Kingston (Durham and Magdalene), J Johnson (Bedford and Downing), *S Gill (Lancaster RGS and Fitzwilliam), N Bennett (Richard Hale and Fitzwilliam), *D Walker (Lancaster RGS and Downing), T Robinson (Rugby and St John's), T Allchurch (Abbey HS Redditch and Downing), *J Macklin (Felsted and St John's).

GLOUCESTER: P Ford; P Pritchard, R Ellis, P Williams, P Tunstall; L Jones, S Baker; M Preedy, S Mills (captain), P Blakeway, J Gadd, S Boyle, J Orwin, P Good, M Teague.

Referee: Russell (London).

* a Blue.

Enevoldson plays

Peter Enevoldson is one of two uncapped players in Major R. V. Stanley's XV to play Oxford University at Iffley Road next Wednesday. Enevoldson, now a doctor

MAJOR R V STANLEY'S XV: M Wyatt (Swansea); M Slemen (Liverpool), A Bond (Sale), C Woodward (Leicester), C Rees (London Welsh); G Davies (Cardiff), S Smith (Sale); I Stephens (Bridgend), A Phillips (Cardiff), P Enevoldson (London Irish), M Biggar (London Scottish), W Beaumont (Fylde, captain), A McHarg (London Scottish), G Williams (Bridgend), A Ripley (Rosslyn Park).

Halliday's try is consolation for beaten Oxford

By Gerald Davies

Cardiff 38 Oxford Univ 9

A lively and spirited performance by Oxford in the first half saw them trailing by only 12—9 at the interval, but the writing was on the wall, even then, that Cardiff, if they adopted more direct means, were likely to overrun them. The duly won by five goals and two tries to a goal and a penalty.

It was Oxford, however, who notched up the first points when Barnes kicked a 30-metre penalty after only three minutes. But, for the next 20 minutes, Cardiff lodged themselves firmly within their opponents' 22. Luddington, after suffering an early thigh injury, had to go off, but even so, the reconstituted back division, with Bramhall coming on at centre, Davies moving to scrum half, and Millerchip to full back, gave a good account of themselves.

Stern defence in midfield and the prodigious covering of Searle and Gargan kept Cardiff, who were intent on carrying out complicated moves, at bay.

Roberts gained valuable possession in the lineout, but it was often ill-directed, so that both Davies and Barnes although showing some nice touches; were constantly under pressure. It was inevitable that Cardiff should score. Ring was the first to do so with a try, which was converted by Goodfellow. Soon afterwards the more direct approach of a push-over try by Charles converted by Ring closed their account for the first half.

In reply, Oxford scored a marvellous try, just before halftime. Roberts palmed from the lineout, Barnes mounted the attack to the right. This was stopped in midfield, but Oxford's back row were there in numbers to regain possession, and move left. Halliday with a fine turn of speed, and a sidestep scored near the posts, Barnes converted.

It was all in Cardiff's favour, after that, and rarely did Oxford come out of their own territory. The beefier Cardiff pack controlled the scrum at will and Mogridge's two-handed catching in the lineout ensured a constant stream of possession so that Cardiff's game almost resembled the seven-a-side game. Holmes, after a subdued first half lived a charmed existence, and scored three tries. Phillips and Ring scored the others, three of which were converted by Goodfellow.

CARDIFF: P Goodfellow; S Evans, D Barry, P Daniels, A Yeandle; M Ring, T Holmes; I Eidman, A Phillips (captain), J Rawlins, R Lewis, A Mogridge, K Edwards, O Golding, T Charles.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: *T M Davies (Hale School, Western Australia, and Balliol); S Saunders (Cape Town University and University), C Millerchip (King Henry VIII, Coventry, and Lincoln), *S J Halliday (Downside and St Benet's Hall), *A J Bibby (St George's, Vancouver, and St Catherine's); S Barnes (Bassaleg and St Edmund Hall), *R S Luddington (KCS Wimbledon and St Edmund Hall) (sub, J Bramhall); *J C Webster (Uppingham and Oriel), A Robart (Millfield, Southwell, and Exeter), N Herrod (King Henry VIII, Coventry, and St John's), J Searle (Tynemouth and Hertford), C Hugo-Hamman (Cape Town University and Jesus), *N T Roberts (Glenalmond and Jesus, captain), D O O'Grady (Wellington and St Anne's), *M S Gargan (St Peter's York, and St Edmund Hall).

Referee: R Pardoe (Welsh RU).

Cotton calls for a players' union

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

Fran Cotton believes that Rugby Union players should form themselves into an association to represent their interests and to voice their opinions at the highest levels in the game. The former England and Lions prop forward makes this radical suggestion in his autobiography, *Fran* (Queen Anne Press £7.95), which is published today.

"In the vast majority of cases", he writes, "the views aired in the ultimate decision-making body within the Rugby Football Union are only representative of the administrators and do not represent the views of some players. . . . The formation of a players' association . . . could only help the administrators to point the game in a direction in which the majority of its members wish to travel. This may all appear very radical indeed for a game as conservative as rugby; but changes are long overdue and in 20 years' time we will probably look back and say: 'What was all the fuss about?'."

On the subject of professionalism, Cotton asserts that if the present laws were stringently applied, then very few of the international players over the last 10 years would be classed as amateurs. "Contravention of the laws vary from excessive claims for expenses to the acceptance of free playing kit and the payment of players for wearing a certain make of boot. The actual payment of players for playing the game is very exceptional in Britain, even though it is much more widely accepted by the leading players in France and Italy".

He deplores the fact that because of the present rules relating to amateurism, player-authors such as Gareth Edwards, Mervyn Davies, Gerald Davies, David Duckham and Ian McLauchlan have been banished from the game.

Cotton calls on the Unions to give far greater consideration to international players, their wives and families, particularly on the day when husbands and sons are achieving a lifetime's ambition by representing their country. "For a home international players are given two complimentary tickets, and allowed to buy four further tickets, whereas members of the RFU committee are given an allocation of 20 tickets. For away internationals, it is even worse, the players are given two tickets only."

He adds that having given these to his wife and mother, his father and sister had to stand on the terrace at Murrayfield to watch him play the most important game of his international career.

Cotton goes on to assert that players' wives are treated shabbily if they wish to spend Saturday evening with their husbands after an international match. He concedes that things have changed in this respect since he first played for England, but observed that wives booked in at the Hilton Hotel by the RFU still receive a bill for the difference in cost between a double room and a single

Such criticisms apart, Cotton's pride in playing for club, county, country and Lions, and his affection for a game in which he clearly wishes to continue as coach and/or administrator, shines through a book which is all the better for having been written by himself.

A number of his saltier comments are echoed by Roger Uttley in another readable autobiography, *Pride in England* (Stanley Paul, £6.95), written in collaboration with David Norrie

Five caps in Munster side

There are five international players in the Munster side to play the Australians at Musgrave Park, Cork, on Tuesday. They are wing Moss Finn, stand-off half Tony Ward, prop forward Gerry McLaughlin, the lock Brendan Foley and flank forward Colm Tucker. Two other internationals, Moss Keane and Donal Spring, were not considered because of injury and the side shows six changes and two positional switches from the team that lost 16—10 in Cardiff

MUNSTER: J Barry (University College, Cork); M Finn (Constitution), M Kiernan (Dolphin), P Cross (Young Munster), J Crotty (UCC), A Ward (Garryowen), A O'Regan (UCC), T Hennessy (London Irish), P Derham (UCC), G McLaughlin (Shannon), D Lenihan (UCC), B Foley (Shannon), C Tucker (Shannon), A O'Leary (Wanderers, captain), C Cantillon (Constitution). Replacements: D Daly (Dolphin), P Rolls (Bohemians), B Murphy (London Irish), N Glynn (Shannon), T Mulcahey (Bohemians), P Collins (UCC).

All Blacks give cause for concern

French Selection 6 All Blacks 6

Perpignan, Nov 11—The touring New Zealanders drew today with a South-West France regional XV after trailing 3—6 at half-time. It was their final game before the first international against France on Saturday, played before 10,000 spectators.

Led by Andy Haden, the All Blacks' points were scored by Rollerson from a penalty in the eleventh minute and a drop goal in the sixty-first. Rui dropped a goal for the home team in the fifth minute and a penalty in the twenty-eighth.

The All Blacks admitted their failure to score a try during the game was a matter of concern so close to the international, and were unhappy with the overall pattern of the game. The tour captain, Graham Mourie, who was not playing, said the result was not good enough for the All Blacks.

Yesterday's results

Rugby Union

TOUR MATCHES: Devon and Cornwall 6, Australians 49; French Selection 6, New Zealanders 6.
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands group final: North Midlands 16, Notts, Lincs and Derby 13.
WESSEX FLOODLIT TROPHY: First round: Salisbury 18, Bournemouth 7.
CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 20, Gloucester 12; Cardiff 38, Oxford University 9; Glamorgan Wanderers 9, Swansea 34; Newport 13, Pontypridd 6; Ebbw Vale 7, Breconshire 4; Esher 6, London University 10.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: United Banks 0, Essex 15; Paris 21, London 17.
SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Dundee 31, St Andrews 3; Edinburgh 7, Heriot Watt 6; Glasgow 21, Strathclyde 25.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Glasgow 15, South of Scotland 10; SSRU President's XV 14, Midland 3.

Hockey

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Cambridge University 2, HA XI 1.

Tennis

Golden player with a silver tongue

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

John McEnroe, the Wimbledon and United States champion, played the kind of tennis expected of him in winning a singles and a doubles in turn, the latter with Peter Fleming, in the Benson and Hedges tournament at Wembley yesterday. McEnroe wore grey for the singles, as if he felt that some distinctive identification was necessary. But his tennis he played at all gold. There was nothing flashy about it: just a smooth, shimmering veneer that cast a special light on what is, after all, just a game.

McEnroe was in equally good form at his subsequent press conference. He is a frank, quick-witted lad who instantly appreciates every nuance of a question and wastes no time on [illegible]. In short, his anticipation and reactions are just as swift, versatile and businesslike in the conference room as they are on court.

Tennis politics are mostly a bore but McEnroe, like the rest of us, occasionally has to live with them. He said yesterday that there were too many tournaments already, that the introduction of a second circuit of men's events in 1982 would, therefore, be bad for the game, and that the prize money on offer too often [illegible] importance.

Obviously disenchanted with the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, who run the existing grand prix circuit, McEnroe suggested that "a couple of ITF guys (representatives of the International Tennis Federation) shouldn't run the game themselves". He felt that the representatives of the players and of tournament promoters were always outvoted when it really mattered.

"The ATP should get off the pro council. It's a waste of time for players to be on that council." In this respect his wishes will almost certainly be granted before the game is much older. With two circuits next year, instead of one, it already seems assured that the ATP will leave the MIPTC and re-assert their independent role in the game.

McEnroe was both tough and amusing in dealing with the way he is treated by the world's press. Japan, he speculated, might be the only place where the press did not give him a bad time. ("I can't read it, anyway.") He was also acutely aware of his effect on court officials. "People get very nervous when they're officiating my matches. It's obvious. Half the time, they're jumping out of their pants."

This was an oblique reference to the fact that, during his doubles match, he was warned for putting away a smash with unnecessary venom when the point had already been won. That match wasn't in many ways a good. Fleming and McEnroe won 6—3, 6—4 against Alexander Mayer and Frew McMillan, who are no mugs at the specialized craft of playing in harness. On each side of the net were the basic components of a good team: a player of flair, touch, and finesse (McEnroe and McMillan) and a "straight" man. Call it, if you like, the tennis equivalent of Morecambe and Wise.

There are some strange pairings in the doubles, none stranger than that of Brian Gottfried and Bob Lutz, whose combined talents as a droll cross-talk act deserve an invitation to the Des O'Connor Show. These two have won a string of big titles with other partners, Lutz with Stan Smith and Gottfried with Raul Ramirez. Now, through force of circumstance, they have drifted together. The partnership looks promising. The only potential snag is that doubles partners often have a little chat: and when the partners are people like Gottfried and Lutz, such chats could swiftly disintegrate into laughter at the expense of business efficiency.

In the singles, Richard Lewis, one of three British Davis Cup players granted places in the draw by wild cards, beat Ilie Nastase 6—4, 6—4 in an hour and 24 minutes. This was an admirable performance by the left-handed Lewis, a polished craftsman whose qualities of heart and mind compensate for a relatively modest aptitude for the game. [illegible] mobility.

Nastase often displayed that inimitable deftness of touch that gives substance to his flow of imaginative ideas. His anticipation and ball control gave him plenty of time for his shots and what seemed to be a vast amount of space in which to put them. But his sense of purpose was less firm than that of Lewis, who took heart midway through the first set when Nastase started to talk to all kinds of people and



Lewis: had too much iron for Nastase

[illegible] that betrayed the fact that his concentration was wavering.

McEnroe, a player who has much in common with Nastase, won the next match [illegible], beating John Feaver 6—1, 6—1. [illegible] looking on observed: "McEnroe is making Feaver look like a sick dog. Mind you, McEnroe makes most players look like sick dogs."

McEnroe had so many shots, so many ways of making life difficult for his opponent, that Feaver never had a chance. It was Arthur Ashe who once observed that McEnroe bleeds his opponents to death without doing anything overtly violent. McEnroe's game is a series of subtle nicks and slices that cuts the opposition to pieces.

Feaver said later: "He's very good, isn't he? He didn't let me get my nose into the match. If there is such a thing as laying a ball on a string, he's got it. [illegible] He's there before you hit the shot. I've never played anybody who anticipates so well. It's uncanny. I didn't serve well, either—and if I can't hurt him with my serve, which is my big shot, I was obviously in trouble."

FIRST ROUND: S Mayer (US) beat G Ocleppo (Italy), 6—3, 3—6, 6—1; T Wilkinson (USA) beat J Borowiak (US), 2—6, 6—3, 6—4; R Lewis beat I Nastase (Romania), 6—4, 6—4; J McEnroe (US) beat J Feaver, 6—1, 6—1.

SECOND ROUND: R Tanner (US), beat T Mayotte (US), 6—1, 6—4.

Racing

Top honours await this talented scholar

By John Karter

Sheer class shone out like a beacon through the murk at Newbury yesterday. Just as he had done at this meeting last year, when he glided home in his first race over hurdles, Brown Chamberlin looked a potential world-beater when he annihilated his rivals in the Halloween Novices' Steeplechase. Whereas Brown Chamberlin failed to accomplish the great things that were predicted for him after last season's win, however, this time the path could lead right to the top. The ascent will be gradual, though, because Fred Winter, his trainer, is adamant that he must not be hurried. "Educate him" was Winter's terse, but considered, reply when asked what plans he had for the six-year-old.

If anyone is the man to educate a young steeplechaser it is John Francome, who could probably cajole an elephant into jumping round Aintree. Last year Brown Chamberlin's problem was his jumping and when he had his first crack at fences a couple of weeks ago at Kempton Park, it appeared that this tendency to [illegible] had still to be ironed out when he fell at the first fence. However, Francome has been teaching Brown Chamberlin how to handle himself over [illegible] school and how it showed yesterday. Brown Chamberlin did not appear to make the slightest error and nipped over his fences with a fluidity and economy of effort that was inspiring to watch.

Francome handled him with his usual confidence-giving tenderness. The sympathetic touch of the master has surely helped to turn Brown Chamberlin from an [illegible] student into a candidate for first-class steeplechasing honours.

It was not until the run-in that Francome asked Brown Chamberlin to show what he could really do, but it had been obvious all the way up the straight that he was cantering over the opposition. Once the accelerator had been pressed Brown Chamberlin shot clear of Tompion, who had himself shown excellent speed to win at Lingfield recently, as if that horse were galloping on quicksand.

Oliver Sherwood, Winter's assistant trainer, thinks that Brown Chamberlin's potential is unlimited. Sherwood also had encouraging news of the Gold Cup hope Venture To Cognac, whose progress has been impeded by lameness in the shoulder. Venture To Cognac had a blood test recently and it was discovered that a calcium deficiency was causing the lameness. Now that they know exactly what to treat him for, hopes for his future are high again, although he will not reappear until the new year.

Later in the afternoon we may well have seen another potentially outstanding horse in the second division of the Wood Speen Novices' Hurdle. However, the Queen Mother's Sindebele ended up in a heap on the floor instead of winning as he should have done. Having his first race, Sindebele was the medium of some inspired support and he looked certain to justify it, when he cruised to the front at the last flight of hurdles.

It was then that Sindebele got a little too close to the eventual winner, Decorative (also running for the first time over hurdles), and he crashed to the ground while Decorative stormed home, albeit with one shoe torn off and a slightly injured hind leg.

There can be little doubt that Sindebele would have won easily if he had kept his feet and provided his confidence has not been impaired he should be winning some good races before long. [illegible] who appeared to hamper the favourite and eventual runner-up, Broadheath.

Winter had taken the first division of the Wood Speen with Dasman, who continues to throw all the nasty things that some people have said about him right back in their faces. Dasman will be given a gradual build-up to the Cheltenham Festival in March.

The Lambourn trainer had also been expected to win the Winterbourne Handicap Steeplechase with Gay Invader, who was one of those racecourse "whispers" that somehow get shouted out all over the place. However, Gay Invader had no answer to the finishing burst of Beacon Time, who gave Kevin Mooney his sixth win from his last six rides, for Fulke Walwyn.

Incidentally, Walwyn's Diamond Edge worked well after racing and will go straight for the Hennessy Gold Cup later this month.



Last-fence duel: Brown Chamberlin (left) drew clear on the run-in to beat Tompion.

Golden Vow to complete a sparkling treble

By Michael Seely

Golden Vow landed a gamble for his connections when beating Silver Shadow in the Mecca Bookmakers' Hurdle at Sandown two seasons ago. This bold front runner has taken well to his new role as a chaser, having won his only two races over fences at Bangor-on-Dee and Stratford-on-Avon by 20 and 15 lengths, respectively. Golden Vow has been foot perfect in these two victories and can make it a treble in the £5,000 Mendip Hills Novices Chase at Wincanton this afternoon.

This talented young horse will be meeting sterner opposition than he has encountered hitherto. Golden River has already been successful twice over hurdles but appeared a trifle fainthearted when only fourth behind Arabian Music at Kempton Park. Sea Image was another to disappoint last time out when occupying a similar position behind Frosty Hopeful in the Ascot Lambert and Butler qualifier. However, Sea Image was a useful hurdler last season and did nothing wrong on his first appearance over fences when winning easily at Lingfield Park.

Appialto also has the ability to make the grade. Arthur Armytage's seven-year-old finished second to Tompion at Lingfield, and his conqueror certainly did not let this form down when runner-up to Brown Chamberlin at Newbury yesterday.

However, "naturals" like Golden Vow are difficult to beat until they meet rivals of similar experience under testing conditions and he is a confident choice. Also on the Somerset course David Elsworth's British Crown can extend his sequence of victories to four in a row in the Remembrance Poppy Handicap Hurdle.

At Stratford the two best bets should be Button Boy in the Warrnambool Trophy and Glen Berg in the Hawke's Bay Trophy. Button Boy was only beaten a head by yesterday's Newbury winner, Beacon Time, at Devon and Exeter, form which makes him the automatic selection for this two-mile chase. And Glen Berg, trained by the invincible lion of the winter game, Fulke Walwyn, strolled home by 15 lengths on the same track, the same afternoon, and should have little difficulty in defying a 5lb penalty for that success.

Argentines get ready

Buenos Aires, Nov 11.—Guillermo Vilas and José-Luis Clerc, of Argentina, have begun their preparations for next month's Davis Cup final against the United States. While Vilas continues the build-up, next week Clerc plays in the Buenos Aires Clay Court open.

The Argentines have been told that the final in Cincinnati will be held on a synthetic surface, but they want to know what will be under that surface. If it is wood, like at Madison Square Garden, that will be fine for the South Americans. If it is concrete, that will favour the Americans.—Agence France-Presse.

Robert Jenkins, of Britain, and Youssef Maker, of Switzerland, will be the umpires for the Davis Cup final between the United States and Argentina in Cincinnati from December 11 to 13.

LEADING MONEY WINNERS (women): 1, M Navratilova (US) $520,687; 2, C Lloyd (US) $[illegible]; 3, A Jaeger (US) $303,977; 4, T Austin (US) $289,034; 5, H Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) $275,564; 6, P Shriver (US) $237,080; 7, S Hanika (W Germany) $167,398; 8, W Turnbull (US) $164,786; 9, B Potter (US) $140,867; 10, V Ruzici (Romania) $136,875.

Czechoslovakia fall to young Russians

Tokyo, Nov 11.—The Soviet Union sprang a major surprise by beating the second-seeded Czechoslovakia in the second round of the Federation Cup women's team championship today.

After the singles the match stood at 1—1 and the Czechoslovakia pair, Hana Mandlikova and Renata Tomanova, looked to have a simple task against the 19-year-old Russians, Olga Zaitseva and Svetlana Cherneva. But the Soviet pair refused to be intimidated by the formidable Czechoslovaks, and won the doubles 6—4, 6—3, which earned them a quarter-final clash with Britain tomorrow. Earlier, Miss Mandlikova, ranked fifth in the world, won 7—6, 6—1, against Elena Eliseenko after Miss Tomanova had been beaten 6—1, 7—5, by Julia Salnikova, aged 17.

All the remaining seeds reached the last eight, with the United States leading the way with a comfortable 3—0 victory over Spain. The Spaniards scarcely got a look in as Wimbledon champion Chris Lloyd defeated Carmen Perea, 6—2, 6—0, and United States clay court title-holder Andrea Jaeger beat Victoria Baldovinos, 6—0, 6—2. The American pair, Rosie Casals and Kathy Jordan, swept aside Miss Perea and Miss Baldovinos, 6—0, 6—3, in the doubles.

Britain made heavy weather of their 3—0 win over France, Sue Barker toiling for two hours to beat Corinne Vanier 4—6, 6—2, 10—8 after former Wimbledon champion Virginia Wade had won 6—2, 6—3 against Catherine Tanvier. Miss Barker and Miss Wade dropped the first set against Miss Tanvier and Sophie Amiach before taking the doubles 5—7, 6—1, 6—2.

In the other second-round matches third-seeded West Germany beat Brazil 3—0 and the fourth-seeded, Australia, won 3—0 against China. Romania beat Israel 3—0, Switzerland beat Taiwan 3—0 and the Netherlands won 2—1 against Italy.

Australia face the Netherlands in the second of two quarter-finals scheduled tomorrow.

Second-round results

Britain 3, France 0 (Britain first): V Wade beat C Tanvier 6—2, 6—3; S Barker beat C Vanier 4—6, 6—2, 10—8; Miss Barker and Miss Wade beat Miss Tanvier and S Amiach 5—7, 6—1, 6—2.

United States 3, Spain 0: C Lloyd beat C Perea 6—2, 6—0; A Jaeger beat V Baldovinos 6—0, 6—2; K Jordan and R Casals beat Miss Perea and Miss Baldovinos 6—0, 6—3.

Soviet Union 2, Czechoslovakia 1: E Eliseenko lost to H Mandlikova 6—7, 1—6; J Salnikova beat R Tomanova 6—1, 7—5; O Zaitseva and S Cherneva beat Miss Mandlikova and Miss Tomanova 6—4, 6—3.

Australia 3, China 0: W Turnbull beat W Ping 7—5, 6—4; D Fromholtz beat Yu Li Qiao 6—4, 6—2; Miss Turnbull and S Leo beat Hu Na and Li Xin Yi 6—2, 6—1.

West Germany 3, Brazil 0: B Bunge beat P Simera Medrado, 6—3, 6—2; I Kuhn-Riedel beat C Monteiro, 7—6, 6—1; Miss Bunge and Miss Riedel won doubles by default.

Romania 3, Israel 0: V Ruzici beat R Binjamini, 6—1, 6—2; L Romanov beat O Bialistotzky, 6—3, 6—2; Miss Ruzici and F Mihai beat I Binjamini and Miss Bialistotzky, 6—3, 7—5.

Switzerland 3, Taiwan 0: I Villiger beat Ho Chia-Mei, 6—0, 6—0; P Delhees beat Ham Tshan, 6—1, 6—0; Miss Delhees and C Jolissaint beat Ho and H Lee-Chuan, 6—0, 6—0.

Netherlands 2, Italy 1: M Mesker beat R Reggi, 7—6, 6—2; M Torre beat B Simmonds, 4—6, 6—1, 6—1; Miss Mesker and Miss Torre lost to Miss Simmonds and F Murgo, 4—6, 6—7.

☐ Miss Mandlikova and Miss Barker are committed to play in the 1982 Avon Championships at Cincinnati. The $150,000 women's tennis tournament will be played from January 11 to 17 in Riverfront Coliseum. The United States open champion Tracy Austin has already announced that she would play in the tournament, which she won two years ago.

Weights switch charge lifted

The English jockeys, Alan Bond and Richard Fox, have been cleared by the Dutch racing authorities of "weight switching" charges, lodged by local stewards after a meeting at Duindigt on September 27. However, each rider was fined the equivalent of £111.

Fox, who had just deadheated for second place on the Mick Ryan-trained Boxberger Relko, accidentally dropped his saddle weight pad in the weighing room when handing over his number-cloth. Bond, who had ridden the mare Fiona in the same race, was directly behind Fox at the time, and picked up the pad, handing it back to him.

Princes Gate wins in style

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, Nov 11

Greville Starkey and Princes Gate had to survive a rather frivolous objection before being awarded the Group Three Prix Perth over one mile at Saint-Cloud this afternoon. The English pair had decisively beaten the 10-7 favourite, Diamond Prospect, by half a length, but Alfred Gibert considered his ground had been taken by Princes Gate, who paid 11.70 francs for a win on the Pari-mutuel. The stewards dismissed the plea in a few minutes and Gibert admitted that the two horses had never in fact touched.

It was a fine performance by Princes Gate, who was running in group company for the first time. The colt looked superb in the paddock and was kept just behind the leading group for much of the race. When Diamond Prospect made a burst for home, Starkey was quick to send his partner in pursuit and Princes Gate went on to pass his only adversary with a furlong to run. The outsider, Ionian Raja, ran on to be third in front of Ardash, Water Melon and Prospero.

PRIX PERTH (Group 3: £14,815: 1m)
PRINCES GATE, br c, by Realm—Consensus (Mme R Dereker) 4-8-12 ... G Starkey 1
Diamond Prospect ... A Gibert 2
Ionian Raja ... H Samuel 3
PARI-MUTUEL: 11.70fr; places, 3.80, 1.60, 9.40. Dual F: 18.00. H Thomson Jones. ½l, 4l. 18 ran. 1min 14.2sec.

Vale Challenge sets a poser

Vale Challenge's 33-1 victory in the Midridge Novices' Steeplechase at Sedgefield yesterday had an unusual sequel—the horse was not backed either on or off the course with the Tote and all backers who held winning tickets for the race were given their stakes back. John Clapson, the Tote racing manager at Sedgefield, said: "This is a very rare occurrence. It must be only the third time in some 50 years that it has happened to us."

Ice skating

Canadians take lead in pairs over Russians

From John Hennessy
The Hague, Nov 11

Barbara Underhill and Paul Martini, of Canada, won the pairs short programme on the first day of the Ennia Ice International here. He thus achieved a lead of four tenths of a point over a Russian pair, Larissa Seleznyeva and Oleg Makarov. Lee Ann Miller and William Fauver, of the United States, are a similar margin behind the Russians.

Miss Seleznyeva and her partner, from Leningrad, are new to the scene and this may have told against them. Three judges placed them first, those from Switzerland, France and the Soviet Union, but they were supported by a number of self-appointed officials among the spectators. Curiously enough, three more judges (there are nine altogether) placed them third to the Canadians and the Americans. Certainly, the Americans have made strides since finishing tenth in the world championships last season but this seemed to be overstating the case.

The British presence has been sadly weakened by injury and over-exposure. Karen Wood, the national champion, has been rendered *hors de combat*, together with Susan Garland, the holder of the pairs title, though with a different partner from her present companion, Ian Jenkins. Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams, third among our dance couples—which would place them first in some other countries—cried off because of a surfeit of competition.

Boxing

Puerto Rico added to list of venues for Cowdell bout

Pat Cowdell, the British featherweight champion, is still waiting to learn where his world title bout against the Mexican, Salvador Sanchez, is to take place. The contest will be held somewhere across the Atlantic on December 12 but Don King, the promoter, has yet to name the venue.

Originally it was either Las Vegas, Atlanta or Cleveland but while Las Vegas now looks unlikely, Puerto Rico has been added to the list, Cowdell's manager, Ron Gray, said yesterday. Meanwhile the British champion is in full training, having taken a week's rest after his contest in Wolverhampton a fortnight ago.

"There will be no doubts about his fitness", Mr Gray said, "but it is frustrating not knowing whether we are going to a hot place or a cold one, or being able to answer enquiries from supporters who want to make the trip. For practical reasons we have to know fairly soon, because if it is Las Vegas or Puerto Rico, I shall want him there three weeks before the fight to get used to the climate".

Terry Marsh, the former Royal Marine commando and ABA welterweight champion, has his third professional bout at Bloomsbury Centre, London on November 23. He meets the Scottish champion, Dave Douglas, over six rounds.

Billy Aird, who retired from boxing after losing a British heavyweight title bout against Gordon Ferris earlier this year, makes a comeback at the age of 35 in the top-of-the-bill contest. He meets Winston Allen, of Swansea.

Keith James, an ABA middleweight semi-finalist this year, will make his first professional appearance against Joe McLaughlin at Chesterfield on November 23. James, aged 23, signed as a professional under the Norwich manager, Gordon Holmes, last month.

Frazier's opponent

The former world heavyweight champion, Joe Frazier, is to return to boxing on December 3, in a 10-round bout against Jumbo Cummings. Frazier, aged 37, retired after he was knocked out a second time by George Foreman in five rounds on June 15, 1976, after first losing his heavyweight title to Foreman in 1973.—AP.

Motor racing

Jones pulls out of race to think again

Hongkong, Nov 11.—Alan Jones, the former world motor racing champion, has withdrawn from next Sunday's Macao Grand Prix. "He has some serious decisions to make about his future in motor racing and felt it necessary to spend time alone on his farm in Australia", said Teddy Yip, owner of Theodore Racing, for whom Jones was to have driven.

Jones, the 1980 world champion, announced his retirement from formula one racing in September, but is believed to be having second thoughts about his decision. The 34-year-old Australian may be replaced in the Macao event by Roberto Moreno, a Brazilian, who won Sunday's Australian Grand Prix. Britain's Geoff Lees, winner of the Macao race for the past two years, and Mark Thatcher, son of the Prime Minister, will be among the field.

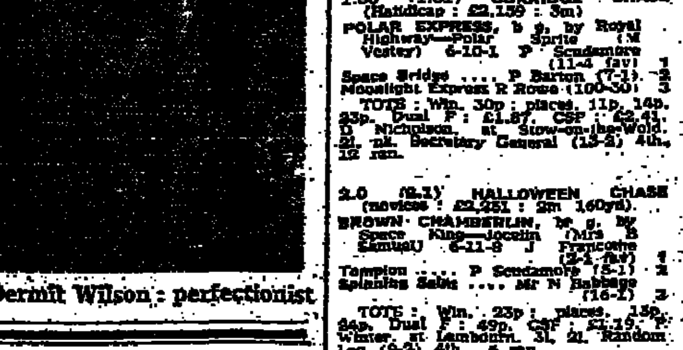
World event for Rome

Rome, Nov 5.—The 1982 world fencing championship will be held in Rome next July, the president of the Italian Fencing Federation said here today.—AP.

When the Americans moved in on The Mill at Nether Wallop

Lord of the flies in his old kingdom





Dermot Wilson, the best in the business, is going out of the business. The complex of The Mill at Nether Wallop, the fishing tackle mail order, advisory and fly fishing instruction business, together with stretches of water on the Test and Itchen, have been sold to Orvis, a big American tackle company with similar interests in the States. Their penetration of the British market will be watched in some quarters, no doubt, with flickers of apprehension.

Dermot Wilson himself, now in his late fifties, a former director of J. Walter Thompson, gave up advertising in the 1960s to start a mail order fishing tackle business in a disused flour mill on the Wallop Brook near Stockbridge in Hampshire. From the start he ran it on what was then the rather startling principle that orders were despatched within a day of being received. Moreover, he guaranteed his customers that rods, reels and lines would be replaced free of charge up to a period of two and sometimes three years after being bought if they were faulty. His success was formidable.

However, there was one snag. The more he became involved in the business of selling fishing tackle the less he enjoyed the one-time passionate pleasure of fishing himself. Instead he became a fishing administrator, chairman of the Anglers' Cooperative Association, of Salmon and Trout Association committees, head of a big business. It was too much. His health began to suffer. When the recession came it was obvious he would have to reduce the high standards on which he ran his business to survive. A perfectionist, there was no choice.

Is there a limit to the fascination of fly fishing? Dermot Wilson now has the time and the leisure to find out. Described as one of the finest dry fly fishermen of his time, he has an uncanny ability to drop a fly in precisely the right place. Modestly, he will discount stories of his prowess by saying that it is merely a matter of making fewer mistakes than he used to.

The prowess, however, is beyond doubt. He has been seen to take half a dozen larger-than-average trout from the Dart on the dry fly while others took nothing at all; to lure a so-called impossible trout from the Test where others had had persistent refusals: beyond and above the skills that can be learned from practice and observation, there is in such cases something more that raises a fisherman to be a master of his craft. The hunting instinct, a sixth sense, our inheritance from primitive man? Who knows? The fascinating question posed by the Dermot Wilson story is simply this: will he recover the pleasure he had in fishing which he lost when it became his business?

Conrad Voss Bark



Dermot Wilson: perfectionist

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Indiana Pacers 109, Cleveland Cavaliers 102; New York Knicks 111, New Jersey Nets 99; Philadelphia 76ers 98, Detroit Pistons 93; Boston Celtics 90, Washington Bullets 84; Atlanta Hawks 94, Milwaukee Bucks 85; San Antonio Spurs 128, Los Angeles Lakers 106; Chicago Bulls 119, Kansas City Kings 107; Phoenix Suns 109, Denver Nuggets 100; Utah Jazz 106, San Diego Clippers 97; Seattle Supersonics 123, Golden State Warriors 113; Portland Trail Blazers 117, Dallas Mavericks 95.

CUP WINNERS' CUP: Second round, second leg: Ghent: HG Merelbeke (Belgium) 81, IS Bratislava 77; Bratislava qualified for quarter-finals. Madrid: Real Madrid 138, BMS Skovlunde (Denmark) 66; Real Madrid qualified for quarter-finals.

Football

TURKISH LEAGUE: Ankaragucu 1, Gotzepe 0; Trabzon 3, Gaziantep 0; Besiktas 1, Bursaspor 0; Antalyaspor 2, Eskisehir 0; Galatasaray 1, Kocaeli 0; Adanademirspor 1, Diyarbakir 0; Boluspor 2, Zonguldak 2; Sakarya 2, Altay 0.

CZECHOSLOVAK: Slovan Bratislava 2, Tatran Presov 1; Spartak Trnava 0, Lokomotiva Kosice 0; Plastika Nitra 1, Banik Ostrava 0; Zbrojovka Brno 3, Zilina Potrzalka 0; Vitkovice 3, Banska Bystrica 1; RH Cheb 2, Slavia Praha 2; Dukla Praha 4, Inter Bratislava 0.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders 3, Winnipeg Jets 3; St Louis Blues 7, Calgary Flames 0; Los Angeles Kings 4, Montreal Canadiens 2.

Volley ball

TOKYO: Women's World Cup tournament: United States beat Brazil 16—14, 15—12, 15—10; China beat Bulgaria 15—4, 16—6, 15—3; Japan beat Cuba 15—13, 14—16, 15—8, 15—5; USSR beat South Korea 15—11, 15—6, 16—14.

Wincanton programme



1.0 NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £584: 2m)

2 04-1 Remainder Imp (D), R Turnell, 4-11-6 ... A Holder 7
3 00-1 Silcakey, D Elsworth, 4-11-6 ... C Brown
8 00-p0u0 Embankade, P Diggins, 7-11-0 ... M Coyle 4
11 0-00024 Ionian Isle, R Brazington, 5-11-0 ... C Jones
12 pf John Doon, G Small, 7-11-0 ... P Hobbs
13 0 Joliffe's Double, A Bailey, 5-11-0 ... R Rowe
15 Merry Brandy, B Knight, 5-11-0 ... C Candy
18 0p00-4 President Elect, R Hodges, 5-11-0 ... S G Knight
19 003340- Provoking, N Mitchell, 5-11-0 ... Angela Judd 7
22 00/ Wayward Cottage, P Purdy, 6-11-0 ... R Linley
24 2 Brando, G Thorner, 4-10-10 ... R Kington
27 00 Companionship, G Balding, 4-10-10 ... Mr E Friedman 7
[illegible] Pamroy Lad, F Winter, 4-10-10 ... J Francome
33 2 The County Stone, J Thorne, 4-10-10 ... R Hoare

2-5 Remainder Imp, 5-1 Silcakey, 6-1 Pamroy Lad, 7-1 The County Stone, Brando, 8-1 Companionship, 14-1 Provoking, 16-1 others.

1.30 DAILY MIRROR JOCKEYS' CHAMPIONSHIP CHASE (Handicap: £1,559: 3m 1f)

2 4004-b0 El Cardo (B), Mrs E Kennard, 11-11-7 ... R Muggeridge 5
3 00pp-21 Shermoon (CD), D Nicholson, 10-11-4 ... N Coleman 5
4 010pp-0 China Cottage (B), P Bailey, 8-11-1 ... V McKevitt 5
5 310050- Woodham (C, B), J Old, 11-10-7 ... C McIlfatrick 5
7 0f4-0pp Mystic Code, B Williams, 11-10-7 ... J Davies 5

4-5 Shermoon, 3-1 El Cardo, 6-1 Woodham, China Cottage, 20-1 Mystic Code.

2.0 "BADGER BEER" CHASE (Handicap: £3,246: 2m 5f)

4 ff123-0 Bideford, S Mellor, 8-11-10 ... P Blacker
5 33f10-1 Rathcoolrath, F Winter, 8-11-8 ... J Francome
7 10032p- Joint Venture (CD), J Old, 12-11-5 ... R Rowe
8 230102- Pizza (CD), N Gaselee, 10-11-1 ... R Linley
10 2173-01 Very Light, T Forster, 7-11-0 ... H Davies
11 14-2221 Lucky Call, D Nicholson, 7-11-0 ...
13 021020 Brother Will (CD), L Kennard, 9-10-13 ... A Webber
15 0000/21- Iron Fighter, W Fisher, 8-10-9 ... Steve Knight

3-1 Rathcoolrath, 7-2 Very Light, 5-1 Bideford, Lucky Call, 8-1 Pizza, Brother Will, 14-1 Joint Venture, 20-1 Iron Fighter.

2.30 MENDIP HILLS CHASE (Novices: £4,846: 2m)

1 0000-11 Golden Vow (D), R Hartop, 7-11-4 ... M Floyd
2 01/4406- Appialto, R Armytage, 7-11-0 ... A Webber
5 0-p1114 Golden River, R Turnell, 6-11-0 ...
6 b33-fpp Great Raven, M Stephens, 9-11-0 ... S Shilston
7 1020-03 James Seymour, N Gaselee, 5-11-0 ... R Linley
8 3000-f2 Kilve, J Thorne, 5-11-0 ... R Hoare
9 020-p04 Mitchelstown (B), A House, 7-11-0 ... R Floyd
11 0012-14 Sea Image (D), F Winter, 6-11-0 ... J Francome
12 0300-10 Slaney, I Wardle, 6-11-0 ... M Williams
14 f4u30-0 Vide Bien, N Thomson, 8-11-0 ... Mr N Thomson

7-4 Sea Image, 6-4 Golden Vow, 6-1 Appialto, Kilve, 12-1 Golden River, 14-1 Slaney, 16-1 James Seymour, 20-1 others.

3.0 REMEMBRANCE POPPY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,605: 2m)

1 2f0441/ Danish King (D), A Moore, 7-11-10 ... G Moore 4
4 030203- Meistersinger (D), J Gifford, 6-11-3 ... R Rowe
7 22214-0 Acapulco Gold (D), A Pitt, 5-10-12 ... R Linley
8 00233-0 Bickleigh Bridge (CD), R Hodges, 7-10-12 ... C McIlfatrick 7
9 f03p04 Allied Sentinite (CD), J Jenkins, 5-10-11 ... M Harrington 7
10 A22/111 British Crown (CD), D Elsworth, 5-10-11 ... J Davies 7
11 00p440- Callinago (CD), B Pettemore, 7-10-10 ... Miss L Martin 7
13 132r04/ Skyline Drive, C James, 7-10-8 ... G McNally
14 24313-0 Gilligan (CD), J Thomas, 6-10-8 ... H Davies
17 f00212- Tarus, A Aylett, 5-10-6 ... —
16 00011/ Little Canford (D), F Winter, 7-10-3 ... J Francome
20 01223b/ Green-Fingered (CD), J Roberts, 7-10-1 ... S May
23 f0-2030 Space Ship (D), Mrs S Davenport, 7-10-0 ... P Warner
24 11-000f Polly's Owen (D), R Barton, 6-10-0 ... M Floyd
29 0/2000f- Swallow Prince (D, B), G Pike, 7-10-0 ... J Williams
30 0221p0/ Marel, J Cann, 6-10-0 ... S G Knight
32 00/p0pp- Mynthalk, B Gatry, 9-10-0 ... G Old

10-11 British Crown, 7-1 Meistersinger, 8-1 Little Canford, Allied Sentinite, 12-1 Bickleigh Bridge, Space Ship, 16-1 Acapulco Gold, Gilligan, 20-1 others.

3.30 NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £578: 2m)

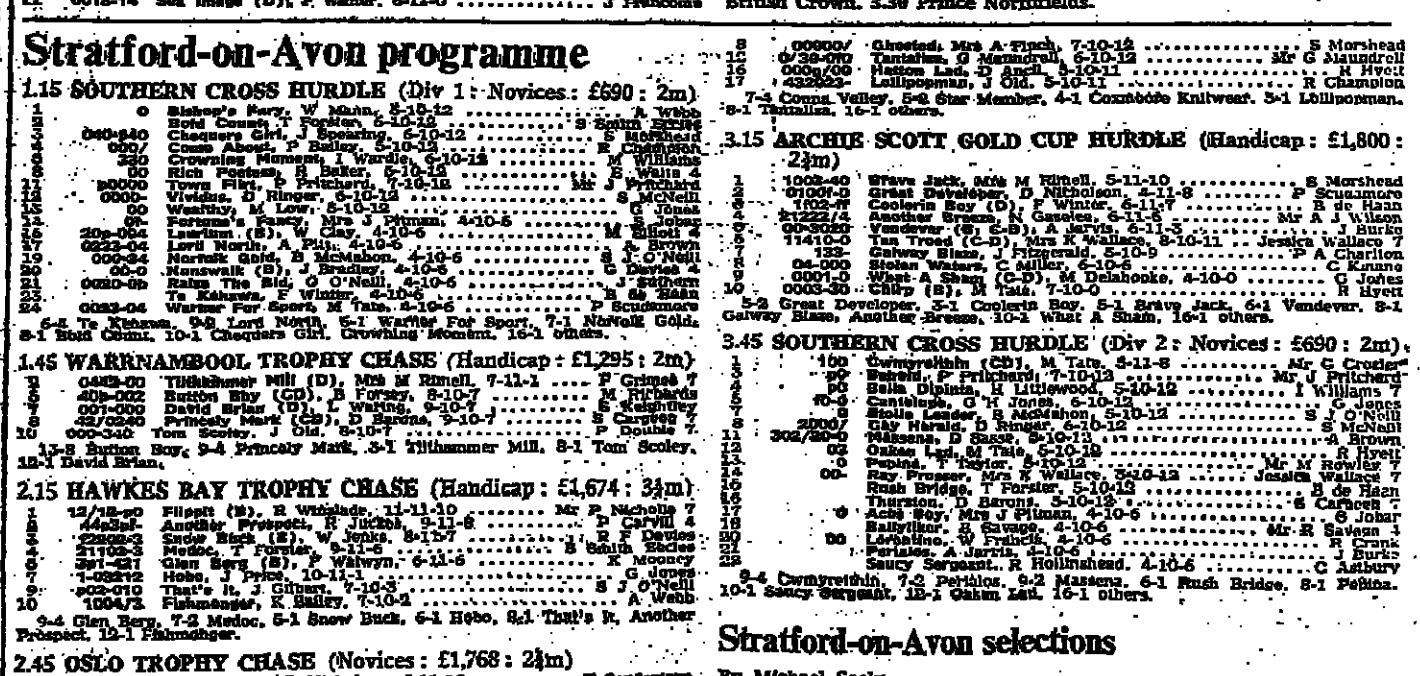
1 22000-1 Father Flash (D), B Palling, 5-11-10 ... C Candy
3 301 London Haze (CD), D Gandolfo, 6-11-10 ... P Barton
5 10 Prince Northfields, Mrs N Smith, 4-11-6 ... J Francome
9 000/p4- Brogue, A Moore, 5-11-0 ... G Moore 7
11 24/2-003 Du Maurier, A Aylett, 8-11-0 ... —
16 03000f- Lead Charge, R Turnell, 5-11-0 ... Steve Knight
17 000- Murhine, G Balding, 6-11-0 ... M Lynn 7
19 0-p Muscovado, P Bailey, 6-11-0 ... R Linley
20 000402- Newton Flare, W G Turner, 5-11-0 ... Mr W Turner
23 p/0004 Sir Kelpie, K Dunn, 5-11-0 ... J Williams
26 00040/0- The Czar, A Andrews, 7-11-0 ... C Bourne 7
27 000-0 Witherland, J Thorne, 5-11-0 ... R Hoare
28 00-00 Walk, B Forsey, 5-11-0 ... B Forsey
29 00-2200 Emperor Napoleon, N Mitchell, 4-10-10 ... N Coleman 7
30 2 Emi Condor, D Kent, 4-10-10 ... P Haynes
31 20- Fool On The Hill, T Marshall, 4-10-10 ... C Brown
32 0 Supreme Folly, P Burgoyne, 4-10-10 ... G McNally

13-8 Prince Northfields, 3-1 London Haze, 7-2 Emi Condor, 7-1 Du Maurier, 12-1 Father Flash, 16-1 Lead Charge, 20-1 others.

Wincanton selections

By Michael Seely
1.0 Brando. 1.30 Shermoon. 2.0 Rathcoolrath. 2.30 Golden Vow. 3.0 British Crown. 3.30 Prince Northfields.

Stratford-on-Avon programme



1.15 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £690: 2m)

1 0 Bishop's Fury, W Mann, 5-10-12 ... A Webb
2 Bold Count, T Forster, 5-10-12 ... S Smith Eccles
3 040-040 Chequers Girl, J Spearing, 6-10-12 ... S Morshead
4 000/ Come About, P Bailey, 5-10-12 ... R Champion
6 320 Crowning Moment, I Wardle, 6-10-12 ... M Williams
8 00 Rich Footsteps, R Baker, 6-10-12 ... E Waite 4
11 p0000 Town Flirt, P Pritchard, 7-10-12 ... Mr J Pritchard
12 0000- Vividus, D Ringer, 6-10-12 ... S McNeill
13 00 Wealthy, M Low, 5-10-12 ... G Jones
15 0f- Fortune's Fancy, Mrs J Pitman, 4-10-6 ...
16 20p-004 Laurium (B), W Clay, 4-10-6 ... M Elliott 4
17 0223-04 Lord North, A Pitt, 4-10-6 ... A Brown
19 000-34 Norfolk Gold, B McMahon, 4-10-6 ... S J O'Neill
20 00-0 Nunswalk (B), J Bradley, 4-10-6 ... G Davies 4
21 0020-0b Rains The Bid, O O'Neill, 4-10-6 ... J Suthern
23 Te Kenawa, F Winter, 4-10-6 ... B de Haan
24 0023-04 Warner For Sport, M Tate, 4-10-6 ... P Scudamore
8 00000/ Ghosted, Mrs A Finch, 7-10-12 ... S Morshead
12 0/30-010 Tantalize, G Maundrell, 6-10-12 ... Mr G Maundrell
16 000p/00 Hatton Lad, D Ancil, 5-10-11 ... R Hyett
17 432023- Lollipopman, J Old, 5-10-11 ... R Champion

6-4 Te Kenawa, 9-2 Lord North, 5-1 Warner For Sport, 7-1 Norfolk Gold, 8-1 Bold Count, 10-1 Chequers Girl, Crowning Moment, 16-1 others.

1.45 WARRNAMBOOL TROPHY CHASE (Handicap: £1,295: 2m)

2 0442-00 Tillthammer Mill (D), Mrs M Rimell, 7-11-1 ... P Grimes 7
5 40b-002 Button Boy (CD), B Forsey, 8-10-7 ... M Richards
7 001-000 David Brian (D), L Waring, 9-10-7 ... S Keightley
8 42/0240 Princely Mark (CB), D Barons, 9-10-7 ... S Cargeeg 7
10 000-340 Tom Scoley, J Old, 8-10-7 ... P Double 7

13-8 Button Boy, 9-4 Princely Mark, 3-1 Tillthammer Mill, 8-1 Tom Scoley, 12-1 David Brian.

2.15 HAWKES BAY TROPHY CHASE (Handicap: £1,674: 3¼m)

1 12/12-p0 Flippit (B), R Windsdale, 11-11-10 ... Mr P Nicholls 7
2 44a3af- Another Prospect, R Juckes, 9-11-6 ... P Carvill 4
3 22202-3 Snow Buck (B), W Jenks, 8-11-7 ... R F Davies
4 21102-3 Medoc, T Forster, 9-11-6 ... S Smith Eccles
6 3p1-421 Glen Berg (B), F Walwyn, 6-11-6 ... K Mooney
7 1-03212 Hobo, J Price, 10-11-1 ... G Jones
9 p02-010 That's It, J Gilbert, 7-10-3 ... S J O'Neill
10 1004/3 Fishmonger, K Bailey, 7-10-2 ... A Webb

9-4 Glen Berg, 7-2 Medoc, 5-1 Snow Buck, 6-1 Hobo, 8-1 That's It, Another Prospect, 12-1 Fishmonger.

2.45 OSLO TROPHY CHASE (Novices: £1,768: 2½m)

1 0-3111f Conna Valley, D Nicholson, 6-11-10 ... P Scudamore
3 300p-41 Star Member, R Hawker, 5-11-3 ... E Waite 4
4 00-4u01 Coxmoore Knitwear, A Jarvis, 5-11-2 ... J Burke
7 Game Deception, G King, 7-10-12 ... S McNeill

7-4 Conna Valley, 5-2 Star Member, 4-1 Coxmoore Knitwear, 5-1 Lollipopman, 8-1 Tantalize, 16-1 others.

3.15 ARCHIE SCOTT GOLD CUP HURDLE (Handicap: £1,800: 2¾m)

1 1002-40 Brave Jack, Mrs M Rimell, 5-11-10 ... S Morshead
2 0100f-0 Great Developer, D Nicholson, 4-11-8 ... P Scudamore
3 1f02-ff Coolerin Boy (D), F Winter, 6-11-7 ... B de Haan
4 21222/4 Another Breeze, N Gaselee, 6-11-5 ... Mr A J Wilson
5 00-3020 Vendevar (B, C-D), A Jarvis, 6-11-3 ... J Burke
6 11410-0 Tan Trood (C-D), Mrs K Wallace, 8-10-11 ... Jessica Wallace 7
7 133- Galway Blaze, J Fitzgerald, 5-10-9 ... P A Charlton
8 04-000 Stolen Waters, C Miller, 6-10-6 ... C Kinane
9 0001-0 What A Sham (C-D), M Delahooke, 4-10-0 ... G Jones
10 0003-30 Chirp (B), M Tate, 7-10-0 ... R Hyett

5-2 Great Developer, 3-1 Coolerin Boy, 5-1 Brave Jack, 6-1 Vendevar, 8-1 Galway Blaze, Another Breeze, 10-1 What A Sham, 16-1 others.

3.45 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (Div 2: Novices: £690: 2m)

1 100 Cwmyreithin (CD), M Tate, 5-11-8 ... Mr G Crozier
3 p0 Bahrein, P Pritchard, 7-10-12 ... Mr J Pritchard
4 p0 Bella Dipinta, H Littlewood, 5-10-12 ... I Williams 7
5 f0-0 Cantalupe, G H Jones, 6-10-12 ... G Jones
7 0 Stella Leader, B McMahon, 5-10-12 ... S J O'Neill
8 2000/ Gay Herald, D Ringer, 6-10-12 ... S McNeill
11 302/20-0 Massena, D Sasse, 5-10-12 ... A Brown
12 02 Oakan Lad, M Tate, 5-10-12 ... R Hyett
13 0 Pepina, T Taylor, 5-10-12 ... Mr M Rowley 7
14 00- Ray Prosser, Mrs K Wallace, 5-10-12 ... Jessica Wallace 7
16 Rush Bridge, T Forster, 5-10-12 ... B de Haan
17 Thurston, D Barons, 5-10-12 ... S Cargeeg 7
18 0 Ace Boy, Mrs J Pitman, 4-10-6 ... G Jobar
20 Ballytikar, B Savage, 4-10-6 ... Mr R Savage 4
21 00 Lorbatino, W Francis, 4-10-6 ... R Crank
22 Periolos, A Jarvis, 4-10-6 ... J Burke
Saucy Sergeant, R Hollinshead, 4-10-6 ... C Astbury

9-4 Cwmyreithin, 7-2 Periolos, 9-2 Massena, 6-1 Rush Bridge, 8-1 Pepina, 10-1 Saucy Sergeant, 12-1 Oakan Lad, 16-1 others.

Stratford-on-Avon selections

By Michael Seely
1.15 Te Kenawa. 1.45 Button Boy. 2.15 Glen Berg. 2.45 Lollipop Man. 3.15 Great Developer. 3.45 Rush Bridge.

Newbury results

1.0 (1.2) WOOD SPEEN HURDLE (Div I: novices: £1,002: 2m 100yd)
DASMAN, ch g, by Tower Walk—A Deux (Sheik Fahad) 6-11-7 J Francome (8-15 fav) 1
Killing Time ... R Rowe (7-2) 2
Re's-Owen ... J Burke (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 13p; places, 10p, 19p. Dual F: 16p. CSF: 26p. F Winter, at Lambourn. 8l, 3l. Tracys Special (33-1) 4th. 6 ran. NR: Cambridge Gold, Sam Smith.

1.30 (1.31) CURRIDGE CHASE (Handicap: £2,159: 3m)
POLAR EXPRESS, b g, by Royal Highway—Polar Sprite (M Vestey) 6-10-1 P Scudamore (11-4 fav) 1
Space Bridge ... P Barton (7-1) 2
Moonlight Express R Rowe (100-30) 3
TOTE: Win, 30p; places, 11p, 14p, 23p. Dual F: £1.87. CSF: £2.41. D Nicholson, at Stow-on-the-Wold. 2l, nk. Secretary General (13-2) 4th. 12 ran.

2.0 (2.1) HALLOWEEN CHASE (novices: £2,251: 2m 160yd)
BROWN CHAMBERLIN, br g, by Space King—Jocelin (Mrs B Samuel) 6-11-8 J Francome (2-1 fav) 1
Tompion ... P Scudamore (5-1) 2
Spinning Saint ... Mr N Babbage (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 23p; places, 13p, 34p. Dual F: 49p. CSF: £1.19. F Winter, at Lambourn. 3l, 2l. Random Leg (9-2) 4th. 6 ran.

2.30 (2.31) WINTERBOURNE CHASE (Handicap: £2,145: 2m 160yd)
BEACON TIME, br g, by Bubo—The Combe (Lt-Col R Perry), 7-10-12 ... K Mooney (5-1) 1
Gay Invader J Francome (9-4 fav) 2
Anthony of Padua C Smith (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 45p; places, 13p, 17p, 55p. Dual F: 67p. CSF: £1.67. F Walwyn, at Lambourn. 7l, 8l. Tower Bird (8-1) 4th. 10 ran.

3.0 (3.3) CHEQUERS HURDLE (Handicap: £1,354: 3m 120yd)
GRAND ROSE, ch m, by Grand Roi—Ashmunda (M Stephens), 9-10-1 R Millman (11-2) 1
Lady Sweetapples J Davies (66-1) 2
Jocks Bond ... C Bourne (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 58p; places, 15p, £1.65, 20p, 20p. Dual F: 36p. Winner or 2nd with any horse. CSF: £33.81. M Stephens, at Taunton. 20l, 1½l. Grand Hussar 7-2 fav. Go Gently (12-1) 4th. 16 ran.

3.30 (3.31) WOOD SPEEN HURDLE (Div II: £1,000: 2m 100yd)
DECORATIVE, b c, by Martinmas—War Ribbon (Mrs N Penton), 4-10-12 ... P Haynes (7-1) 1
Broadheath P Scudamore (10-11 fav) 2
Cala Porter ... G McCourt (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.17; places, 31p, 10p, 48p. Dual F: 63p. CSF: £1.50. D Kent, at Chichester. 6l, 1½l. Cashley (33-1) 4th. 14 ran.
TOTE DOUBLE: Brown Chamberlin and Grand Rose. £37. TREBLE: Polar Express, Beacon Time and Decorative £113.90. JACKPOT: Not won. PLACEPOT: £26.65.

Sedgefield

1.15 (1.15) CARLTON HURDLE (Selling: £554: 2½m)
SANDMOOR COURT b g by Moulton—Queen Anne (Mrs M Tinkler), 5-10-10 .. N Tinkler (1-2 fav) 1
Go Lissava ... Mr T Walford (5-2) 2
Quain Gelerrime D Wilkinson (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 12p; places, 10p, 44p. Dual F: 22p. CSF: 21p. N Tinkler, at Thirsk. 12l, 2½l. Caribbean Sun (20-1) 4th. 6 ran. NR: Stubbington Green.

1.45 (1.45) TOTE CHASE (Handicap: £776: 2m)
BANNOW BREEZE b g by Flaming Breeze—Bolgerina (J Burke) 9-11-7 .. G Bradley (15-8 fav) 1
Bucksome ... P Tuck (20-1) 2
Roman Kipp .. C Grant (100-30) 3
TOTE: Win, 32p; places, 23p, £1.43. Dual F: £1.98. CSF: £5.38. M Naughton at Richmond. 7l, 8l. Dear Ruddie (9-2) 4th. 6 ran.

2.15 (2.15) DICK BREWITT CHASE (Handicap: £1,359: 3m 600yd)
MIDNIGHT LOVE b g by Golden Love—St Marian (Carpenters Paints Ltd) 6-11-2 C Grant (8-11 fav) 1
Cockle Strand .. S Charlton (7-4) 2
Tangles Brother C Hawkins (5-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 11p. Dual F: 18p. CSF: 24p. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. 10l, bad. 3 ran.

2.45 (2.46) MIDRIDGE CHASE (Novices: £681: 2m)
VALE CHALLENGE ch g by Mon Capitaine—Sallyanne (M Holmes) 7-11-0 .... J A Harris (33-1) 1
Josing Spirit C Pimlott (25-1) 2
Clown Court .... J Hanson (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, winner unbacked; places, £11.18, £1.01, 30p. Dual F: Winner or second with any other horse £4.81. CSF: £58.10. J Harris at Melton Mowbray. 1l, 7l. Birsby 3-1 fav. Box of Tricks (33-1) 4th. 16 ran.

3.15 (3.15) STILLINGTON HURDLE (Handicap: £755: 2m)
SPECTINA ch m by White Speck—Tacitina (G Eley) 5-10-0 D Wilkinson (33-1) 1
Carat Gold .... S P Grant (20-1) 2
Lunar Wind .... M Pepper (7-1) 3
TOTE: win, £14.08; places, £1.89, 37p, 45p, 72p. Dual F: Winner or 2nd with any other horse £2.21. CSF: £55.00. W Storey at Consett. 4l, 1½l. Measure Up 2-1 fav. Witchin (20-1) 4th. 17 ran.

3.45 (3.45) CORNFORTH HURDLE (Novices: Amateurs: £276: 2m)
A KINSMAN, br g, by Rubor—Crosswise (J Brockbank), 5-11-10 Mr T Brockbank (33-1) 1
Czornin .... Mrs G Rees (5-1) 2
Chastity Belt .. Mr R Shiels (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £2.04; places, £1.20, 11p, 25p. Dual F: 11p. Winner or 2nd with any horse. CSF: £11.07. J Brockbank, at Wigton. 1½l, 4l. Sea Merchant (5-4 fav). Ancient Arch (33-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Lady Romana.
PLACEPOT: £719.25.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Polly's Sister, Clegora, Sidney Taylor, Reclamation, Virginia Hill, Diesel Jack, Highsale Wind, Selenavila, Cut and Run, Od Master, Tanaway, Chartered Course, Sam Carmody.

STATE OF GOING (official): Wincanton, good. Stratford, good. Tomorrow: Newcastle, good. Cheltenham, good.

Educational, Careers and Re-training

Educational, Careers and Re-training is featured every THURSDAY

Cramming equals expansion

Rarely do we read or hear about expanding business in any walk of life these days. Yet, despite the recession private tutorial colleges have continued to increase their share of the market for 16 to 19 year-olds.

They have faced considerable change in recent years. Up to 10 years ago it was conceivable that a pupil could be "crammed" with sufficient knowledge to pass an A Level subject in just six weeks. The nickname "crammer" was perhaps justified in some cases. But the word has become obsolete as the majority of colleges now offer one year O Level courses and anything up to two years for A Levels.

By far the largest growth area is the number of students drawn from the state comprehensive schools. The number of foreign nationals has fallen as a result of the Government increasing fees for overseas students. But these students have been replaced by an increasing number of British students.

It is estimated there are in the region of 700 independent colleges in the United Kingdom. Making the right decision needs care and parents should not be afraid to seek advice and visit several colleges before committing themselves. Some are excellent value for money and extremely well run with facilities to match. Others are second-rate, and, in just a few cases, rather dishonest.

Until last year 150 of the colleges were "recognized as efficient" by the Department of Education and Science. This useful seal of approval has now been removed by the Government but one reputable association is planning to extend its own inspection facilities to fill the gap. CIFE—the Conference for Independent Further Education—has about 30 colleges in membership. Its President, Mr Brian Rees, is an eminent member of the Headmasters' Conference (HMC) and was Headmaster of Charterhouse before moving to Rugby School this term.

The Conference was founded in 1973 to impose and maintain standards and because it was widely believed there was "more strength in sharing". Parents do have some guarantee with a CIFE member—each college is constitutionally bound to follow a code of conduct and is inspected at least once every three years to ensure they keep up standards.

Member colleges vary in size from 25 to more than 600 students. They offer a wide variety of O and A Level subjects, ranging from Accounts to Zoology. Fees for most full-time courses are comparable to those of the more expensive public schools: ranging from £1,600-£2,600 for day and £3,000-£4,500 for residential courses.

The Association of Tutors represents some 20 colleges, for the most part preparing students for University entry and General Certificates of Education (GCE). Most tutoring is either on an individual basis or in very small groups. They can cope with gifted children as well as those with learning difficulties such as dyslexia.

Help for children under 15 is limited but the educational agencies listed below can guide parents to the few schools that do exist. In addition, the Association of Tutors has a number of private tutors on their books who can offer tuition in all academic subjects for Common Entrance at 13.

Parents should take special care at this age because "cramming" is frowned upon by most independent school heads unless there is a good reason for it, such as loss of teaching through illness or being overseas. They would argue that if the child needs cramming then perhaps their school is not the right choice.

It is vital to seek the cooperation and advice of both primary and independent school heads. Check with the secondary head what is required: perhaps your child has not studied French—will the school make allowances or, better still, suggest someone to help fill the gap between now and entering the school?

Many primary school heads will also give advice. They may be able to suggest a tutor or school that can help, and even allow time off for extra tuition, or suggest a secondary school where the child would feel more at home.

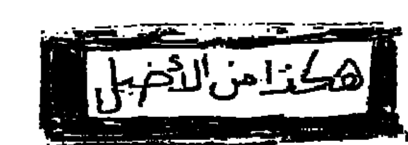
Often the problem is magnified because parents opt for fee-paying too late. Cramming is usually unnecessary if a child enters the junior school for the chosen secondary school. If the school is satisfied the child will cope, moving up into the senior school should not be difficult.

There are two sources of additional information about independent colleges: Truman & Knightley, 76-78 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3LJ. Tel: 01-727 1242. Gabbitas Thring, 6 Sackville Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-734 0165. For details about member colleges write to the Secretaries of: CIFE, PO Box 80, Guildford, Surrey GU1 2NL. Guildford (0483) 69680. Association of Tutors 30 Sackville Road, Hove, BN3 3FB. Tel: Brighton 24151 ext 105.

The Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS) can offer help and advice for the younger child. Their address is: 26 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0RG. Tel: 01-222 9650/0055.

Jane Capon

Recruitment Opportunities



Recruitment Opportunities

EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE MANAGER

B.U.N.A.C., the British Universities North America Club is a non profit club which runs a range of educational exchange work programmes between Britain and North America. We are seeking a person to train as Manager for the UK office.

We seek an organiser who can motivate others and who has a proven commitment to accuracy and efficiency. Some management experience is essential. The job covers a wide variety of areas and experience in some of these would be an advantage: financial planning, travel, administration, public speaking, publicity and printing, student affairs, North America, public relations, computing, typing etc.

The successful candidate will probably be a graduate in his/her late 20's. Salary will begin at around £8,000 a year, linked to the Burnham scale+BUPA and pension. A car will be provided upon appointment as Manager. This is no 9-5 job and the applicant must be prepared to work unsocial hours when necessary, including evenings and weekends.

Apply with a full CV, to: BUNAC, Manager Vacancy, 58 Berners St, London W1P 3AE.

Mark your envelope "Confidential for the Attention of the General Secretary".

CPR

Public Relations/ Marketing Accounts Executives

Creasy Public Relations is a fast expanding consultancy looking for experienced account executives to help service existing and new accounts. Successful applicants will be 25-35 and have a proven consultancy track record. Specialist knowledge in either the fields of building/construction/engineering or consumer/sponsorship would be an advantage. An ability to write, work under pressure and mix in with a young, energetic and ambitious team is essential. There is an attractive salary, commission and benefit package with the position.

Please write in confidence with full c.v. and references to: Peter Creasy, Creasy Public Relations, Ronson House, 353 The Strand, London WC2.

MEMBER OF THE PRCA

ENGINEERS

A large, international construction company in Harrow requires two mechanical design engineers with HVAC and plumbing and two electrical design engineers, with about 25 years' experience in commercial, institutional and industrial projects, and also two architectural engineers with varying experiences in the building industry with good knowledge of construction specification, building materials, materials procurement, and be thoroughly familiar with manufacturers of building materials in the United Kingdom. Remuneration for these positions will be negotiable.

Please apply in writing in the first instance, enclosing your curriculum vitae to:—

PO Box 137,
Harrow,
Middlesex.

OFFSHORE CONSTRUCTION

French Offshore Construction Yard require:

SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER

with experience in Engineering and Offshore fabrication, must be fluent in French.

ENGINEER

with experience of Quality Control and Assurance, welding procedures. A willingness to learn French appreciated.
Please write, with a brief resume of your experience and qualifications to:

H.E.I. Ltd., 42 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 8DD.
UK Agents for:
A.C.S.O. (Ateliers et Chantiers du Sud-Ouest).

PURCHASING MANAGER/ESS

Aged 25-30 years
Salary £7,000-£8,000 plus benefits

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An expanding manufacturing company has a vacancy for an energetic executive. Purchasing in our environment is closely integrated with materials control, and part of a dynamic production management team.
The ideal candidate will have experience in one or more of the above fields, be qualified to degree or similar level and be ambitious.
Please write with C.V. to:
The Production Manager, Kesslers (London) Ltd.
1 Warton Road, London E15 2NE.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL BILLS
£5,000,000 bls. issued 11.11.81 maturing 10.2.82 at 14.7/8%. Applic. tot. £26,000,000 and there are £5,000,000 bls. outstanding.
ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL BILLS
£2,000,000 bls. issued 11.11.81 maturing 10.2.82 at 14.7/8%. Applic. tot. £19,000,000 and there are £5,000,000 bls. outstanding.
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SANDWELL BILLS
£2,750,000 bls. issued 11.11.81 maturing 10.2.82 at 14.7/8%. Applic. tot. £18,250,000 and there are £11,250,000 bls. outstanding.

TRANSFER BOOKS

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY CAPITAL STOCK
In preparation for the payment of the half-yearly dividend due January 15 1982, on the above stock, the Transfer books will be closed at 3.30 p.m. on December 11 and will be re-opened on December 22 1981.
W. L. REEVE,
Assistant Secretary,
50 Finsbury Square,
London, EC2A 1DD.
November 12 1981.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

COOK

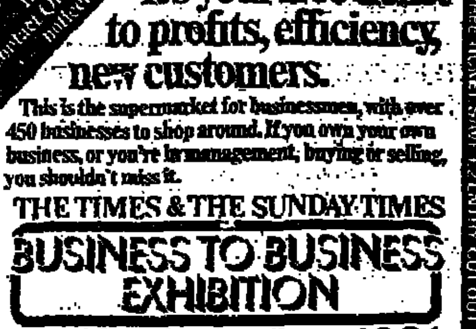
Required for small head office of a public company in Kensington. Excellent conditions. Would suit a person wishing to work 10 a.m.-3 p.m. approx. Salary/terms negotiable.
Apply: MISS M. ASHBY,
PORTSMOUTH AND SUNDERLAND NEWSPAPERS,
37 ABINGDON ROAD,
LONDON, W.8.

AU PAIR BUREAU Piccadilly Ltd World's largest au pair agency offers best jobs London or abroad at 87 Regent St., W.1. 939 4757.

BUTLER/COOK couple req. for Maidenhead area. £720 monthly. Try Consultants, Aldershot. Tel: 0252 315369.

HIGH QUALITY COOK required in Amersham area to provide evening meals for 6-10 people—3/4 nights per week. Must have own car. Phone Little Chalfont 2912.

ONE OR TWO LADIES with some nursing experience to help/look after elderly but mobile mother who has had minor strokes. She lives with two of her sons. North Bucks country house. Car driver. Domestic couple in residence. Box No 0982 G, The Times.



DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

ATHENS/NANNY

Greek shipping family needs 2 nannies/governesses. Experience/teaching qualifications preferable but not essential. Applicants must be pleasant, love children. Aged approx. 20-30 and 35-40 years. Salary £70-£80 p.w. Excellent conditions. Free return passage for 1/2 year agreement. Please contact immediately.

Topair Agency
01-839 2755

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE RING MISS LYLE ON 01-235 9711 BETWEEN 4 AND 5.30.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL GRANT OF NEW JUSTICES LICENCE
To: The Clerk to the Licensing Justices for the Licensing District of Willesden.
To: The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, New Scotland Yard, Broadway, London, SW1.
To: The Town Clerk & Chief Executive, London Borough of Brent, Town Hall, Forty Lane, Wembley, Middx.
To: The Chief Officer, Greater London Council, London Fire Brigade, Fire Prevention Branch, Queensborough House, 18/20, Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7TJ.
We, JOHN VINCENT POWER now residing at 502, Harrow Road, W9 in the County of Greater London being an officer of Chumley's Club, duly nominated for the purpose by or on behalf of the Club having during the past 6 months carried on the trade or calling of a furniture retailer and club proprietor and Keith Fennable of 11, Wandsworth Place, Bradwell Common, Milton Keynes in the County of Buckinghamshire being an officer of Chumley's Club duly nominated for the purposes by or on behalf of the Club having during the past 6 months carried on the trade or calling of Relief Manager and both being persons interested in the premises described below, do hereby give notice that it is our intention to apply at the transfer sessions for the said licensing district of Willesden to be heard at Willesden Magistrates Court, St. Mary's Road, NW10 in the County of Greater London on the 4th day of December 1981 next for the provisional grant to us on behalf of the Club of a Justices' Licence, authorising us to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption either on or off the premises about to be altered or extended for the purpose of being used as a house for the sale of intoxicating liquor and referred to in the description accompanying the plan deposited in accordance with Section 6(5) of the Licensing Act 1964 situated at 28a, High Street, Harlesden, NW10 in the County of Greater London and to be known by the sign of "Chumley's Club" of which premises, I John Vincent Power am the owner.
And it is our intention to apply to the Justices to insert in such a licence a condition forbidding or restricting the sale of intoxicating liquor to non-members of the Club.
Dated this 9th day of November, 1981.
T. W. LYNCH & CO.
Solicitors for the Applicants.

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968
The Church Commissioners have prepared a DRAFT PASTORAL SCHEME referring to an intention to provide a new place of worship for the parish of All Saints, Clapham Park (Southwark diocese), and providing for declaring redundant the parish church of the said parish, the demolition of the said church and the disposal of part of the site. Copies of the draft scheme may be obtained from the Church Commissioners, 1 Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ to whom any representations should be sent within 28 days of the publication of this notice.

THE CORPORATION OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY
THE ANNUAL GENERAL COURT OF GOVERNORS will be held at 1 Dean Trench Street, Westminster, SW1P 3HB on Thursday, 12th November, 1981, at 2.15 p.m. for election of Governors and for filling vacancies of the Court of Assistants under the Charter of King Charles II.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

AUDIO SECRETARY

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Age 20+, salary £5,250 a.a.e. Bonus scheme. Four weeks holiday.
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439 7001 West End
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The Secretarial Consultants

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Sun loving Chairman of Merchant Banking Services Group seeks genius to hold fort during frequent overseas business trips. Personality, flair, and excellent skills essential. In return a generous salary, luxury offices, bonus and benefits.
Ring Theresa Meehan
01-262 5060

P.A. to MANAGING DIRECTOR

of small property company in Mayfair required, preferably with property or financial experience. Aged 25+, hours 9.30-6. Salary £6,000+ negotiable with 3 weeks annual leave.
Contact Miss Wilson on 01-491 [illegible]

Experienced General Legal Secretary

Required for busy young practice in Islington. Salary not less than £6,500. Shorthand an advantage.
Please telephone Mr Cox's Secretary on 226 82[illegible].

La Creme de La Creme

Secretary to Chief Executive

At this stage in your career, with at least 5 years' senior-level experience behind you, you probably won't consider anything less than a top secretarial appointment. Here it is—with the Chief Executive of the London Head Office of the highly successful, international company, John Brown Engineers & Constructors Ltd.

As you would expect of a job of this seniority, it offers total involvement in the management of an executive office where the daily agenda ranges from arranging presentations and keeping abreast of press comment to organising a full and complex international diary for your boss.

A well-educated man or woman, aged 25+, your basic secretarial skills will include 60wpm typing and 110wpm shorthand—but obviously as important are excellent administrative capabilities, a high degree of confidence and diplomacy in dealing with personnel and clients at all levels, and the willingness to learn quickly about the intricacies of our industry.

The salary and benefits package is very attractive too.

For more information, please contact Lynne Errington, Personnel Officer, John Brown Engineers and Constructors Limited, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LE. Telephone: 01-262 8080.



PERSONNEL CONSULTANT

We are a small professional recruitment consultancy in central London specializing in temporary and permanent secretarial and managerial positions.

We are looking for a Consultant to augment our team. You should be approximately 25-30 years of age with proven personnel/recruitment experience. If you are interested in a career in a growing company please reply in writing in the first instance to:

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
Box No. 2860 F, The Times

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Small regional management office of a U.S. engineering company, located in W.1., requires a smart, dynamic secretary for its senior management.
Good shorthand/typing skills must be combined with administrative experience and an ability to work unsupervised.
Probable age 25-35. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Please send C.V. to:
Reading & Bates Service Co Ltd.,
Regency House, 1 Warwick St., W1R 5WB.



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DIRECTOR'S SEC. AGE 21-25
Famous City merchant bank. 100/50 speeds. Excellent benefits. Financial experience useful.

NO SHORTHAND AGE 25-35
Leading Trust company near Embankment and River. Good well presented typing. Lots of variety, good benefits.

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110 Strand, W.C.2. 01-836 6644
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£10,000-12,000 pa Recruitment Co-ordinator 30-32

A very responsible post with W1 Management Consultants evaluating highly qualified applicants and writing reports.
Essential qualifications:— Spoken French and German, personnel experience and a relevant degree. May visit USA for training.
JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU
21 Brompton Arcade, Knightsbridge SW3
01-589 8807/0010 (Cons)

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Required for MD of small expanding advertising firm in central London. Must have sense of humour. Fringe benefits. Salary £6,500 neg.
PLEASE RING:
LINDA OR LORRAINE
ON:
01-723 7671

SHORTHAND SECRETARY

£6,000 +

Our client, an international expanding bank, is seeking to recruit a shorthand secretary who speaks Arabic. (A knowledge of French would also be an advantage, though it is not essential.) You would work for the Branch Manager in the bank's new offices in well appointed surroundings with stimulating work. Interested?
Please call Barbara McCulloch on 623 0101
Cambridge Appointments (Rec Cons)

SECRETARY ACCOUNTANCY PRACTICE

Secretary required for busy accountancy practice in Gray's Inn. First class audio/word processor experience required—no shorthand—latest Olivetti equipment. Salary £7,000 + BUPA. Send c.v. to Box 0945G, The Times.

EX-SECRETARY

Are you a sound secretary who has a strong commercial background? A self-starter with a good academic background who is prepared to work hard tackling a tough yet rewarding job dealing with people? If you have great patience, a sense of humour then, perhaps you would like to join us and train to help others find rewarding careers too.
If so call:
Lana Jeffers on 405 1631 or after 7 pm on 589 28856.

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£7,000

A director of this highly successful investment, leasing and property development Co. seeks a smart articulate secretary. This is a very nice position with approx. 50% typing and 50% sec. duties. There is a lot of client contact both in person and on the telephone. Audio ability 70 wpm needed. Shorthand an asset.
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Telephone 01-499 2921

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INVITATION TONIGHT

5.00—7.00 P.M.

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RSVP
Tel.: 629 7262
Graduate Girls Secretarial

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

Secretary/ P.A.

Publishing £6768+

The Editor of Family Dr. Publications requires an enthusiastic, experienced secretary with excellent shorthand/typing skills. The job is varied, interesting and busy involving secretarial duties, liaison with the press, proof reading etc. Applicants should be non-smokers with an interest in publishing, wanting to work in a small friendly office.
To apply send career details to Personnel Department, British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP by 19th November.

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The World Petroleum Congresses (W.P.C.) requires a Secretary to its Scientific Programme Committee (S.P.C.) who will also assist the Secretary-General. The W.P.C. is an international organisation, with pleasant offices near the B.B.C. in London. It holds a large international scientific congress every 4 years. The S.P.C. secretary is primarily responsible for all the office work related to the S.P.C. including preparation of papers for meetings, follow-up, working with a publisher corresponding with committee members, authors and others. The Secretary attends committee meetings, which are generally held abroad twice yearly, and writes the minutes.

The person appointed will also assist and provide secretarial support to the Secretary-General and attend meetings with him.

Candidates must have a good personality and be able to work on their own for long periods. Good typing and some shorthand and other secretarial skills, as well as an ability to write good, concise English essential. Knowledge of languages and experience of the oil industry useful, but not essential.

Commencing salary £7,350, lunches, 4 weeks' holiday and good pension scheme. First interviews in week beginning 16th November.

Applicants who can meet these requirements are invited to write at once enclosing full curriculum vitae to: Mr D. C. Payne, Secretary-General, World Petroleum Congresses, 61 New Cavendish St., London W1M 8AR. Letters should be marked "Personal".

INTELLIGENT BOOKKEEPER EC2

Experienced and intelligent bookkeeper required for London branch office of New York firm. Duties include monthly analysis of results and report prepared for head office, time sheets, payment of bills and writing up of cash book, payroll and PAYE for approximately 15 employees, VAT returns. Must have commensurate typing skills. Hrs. 9-5.30. Non smoker preferred. Competitive salary.

Telephone Mrs Foreman 628 0101

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First class experienced private and confidential secretary required by Managing Director of a large international Group located in Central London.

This is an attractive opportunity which arises due to the retirement of the present incumbent. The position is likely to appeal to a mature person who has had considerable experience in a similar role. Duties include P.R. with high level business contacts, therefore personality, reliability and communicating skills are important requisites.

A salary commensurate with the responsibility is offered together with fringe benefits including attractive pension arrangements. Applications will be treated in strictest confidence and should be addressed to Richard Sumner, Recruitment Manager, Bates Taylor Resources International, Westgate House, 9 Holborn, London EC1N 2NE.

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Intelligent unflappable person to join hard working friendly team in small professional centre, (staffed mainly by Australians), located 5 mins. from Baker St. Station. Varied interesting work. First contact with clients. Key post. Some typing. Administrative and organising skills essential also capacity for training junior staff. At least 6 years experience in similar post desirable. (No agencies.)

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W1 25+

Experienced Secretary/P.A. required for Financial Director of an expanding oil company. Accurate shorthand/typing and numeracy essential coupled with desire to become completely involved in a busy position. Oil company salary plus benefits will be offered.
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SANDRIA LEWINDON
01-499 9555

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In a fast-growing market research company, now 9 years old. Normal secretarial responsibilities and some company admin duties; also involvement with the M.R. industry's trade association. Will suit person capable of functioning as senior confidential secretary in a friendly but efficient environment. Ring Marian Tussler on 404 5577 for a preliminary interview

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The Managing Director of the London office of an American Executive Search company needs a Secretary who is a real all-rounder. Flexibility will count for a great deal—one minute you could be looking after an important visitor, and the next handling highly confidential correspondence. Age 22-30—good education—100/50 speeds. Your own office.
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173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
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International Finance City based

The London office of an international banking consortium is looking for a resourceful person to assist its senior executives in further business expansion. The person we are looking for will be fluent in both English and Spanish.

Now in its second year, the consortium is principally involved with the financing of major projects, with a particular emphasis on Latin America. For the right person the work will be both rewarding and interesting in a convenient City location.

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Please write to Box No 12TT at:
366/368 Old Street,
London EC1V 9LT

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

An established international company dealing in financial data retrieval and economic news requires a Personal Assistant/Secretary to the Marketing Director based in the City. The job needs initiative, a rigorous mind, a good head for figures, administrative skills, and the ability to deal with people and withstand pressure. Minimum five years experience, aged 28-45, fast typing. Shorthand not necessary. Languages, a background in the financial field and knowledge of word processors a plus.

The salary is high and commensurate with this demanding but challenging post. Pension scheme, five weeks vacation.

Please ring 353 1515
ext. 205 or 353 5531

OCTAPUS PUBLISHING GROUP LTD.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ SECRETARY FOR CHAIRMAN

Octapus Publishing Group is looking for a Personal Assistant/Secretary to work for its chairman. This is a chance to join one of the liveliest publishing companies in Europe. The successful candidate will require excellent secretarial skills, and a minimum of five years' experience at the highest level in order to fulfil this varied and demanding role. A working knowledge of French would be an advantage. Age range: 28-40. Salary negotiable from £8,500 with excellent benefits. Location modern offices in Mayfair.

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c. £5,500 Personnel Department W1

to assist in organizing the office and to provide support to the Personnel Manager of a national chain of ladies' fashion retailers.

Ideally you will have some experience of personnel work, be highly organized and efficient and want to develop your career in Personnel. Some shorthand and typing required. Age 25+. We offer a full range of benefits including season ticket loan.

Please write with full career details to: Miss W. Yates, Personnel & Training Manager, Etam Ltd, 187/193 Oxford Street, London W1R 2AN.

PROPERTY MARKETING

£6,000 and benefits

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SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

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£7,000

We are looking for someone who will act as Sec/Assistant to a Director of this highly successful young investment company in EC2. While fulfilling an important secretarial function, you will become increasingly involved in client business and will be responsible for compiling monthly investment notes. You must have good sh/typ skills and be confident, smart and well spoken. Age early 20s.
Ring 628 4835
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PUBLISHING CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Personable senior audio Secretary required for Chairman of old established West End publishers. Sense of responsibility and initiative needed for varied duties including confidential work, office administration and arranging lunches for the company. Salary £8,500 p.a. Telephone 741 2053 mornings or write with C.V. to "Advertiser", 12 Wellis Road, W6

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£8,500 + neg.

Germany

Person 28 years + with German and English shorthand for international company based in Frankfurt.
For details ring 01-441 5991 or write to Jigsaw Recruitment Ltd., 49 High Street, Barnet, Herts (Agy).

OIL INDUSTRY ST JAMES'

Secretary required to work in a small international oil industry association. Interesting job looking after committees of oil industry personnel. Total package £7,000. Good prospects for advancement.
Write to E & P Forum, 37 Duke St., St James's, London SW1Y 6DH.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

". . . FOR if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."—St. Matthew 6: 14.

BIRTHS

CLARKE.—On November 10th, 1981, at Pembury Hospital, Kent, to Maureen (nee Batchelor) and Michael—a son, brother for Stuart.

ELSMORE - DODSWORTH. — On Friday, November 6, 1981, in Norwich, to Felicity and Simon —a daughter.

FALCONER.—On October 30th, to Polly (nee Sheldon) and Tom—a daughter (Venice Mary) who survived only 10 days.

FOWLER.—On November 8th, at St. Thomas' Hospital to Fiona (nee Donald) and Norman—a daughter (Kate Genevieve), a half sister for Oliver.

GALLACE.—On October 29th, 1981, to Catherine Jane (nee Galbraith) and Bruno Richard—a daughter (Mirella Catherine), at Queen Charlotte's, London.

IRISH.—On Armistice Day, to Isabel (nee Borenzweig) and John—a fourth son (Charles Rupert Benedict), another welcomed brother for Jonathan, Nicholas and Hugo.

LEWIS-CROSBY. — On November 8th, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Lucinda (nee Fraser) and John—a son.

LLOYD.—On November 10th, to Helen (nee Price) and David—a daughter (Albertina).

LOWE.—On November 5th, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Christine (nee Thomas) and Mark—a daughter (Jessica Frances), a sister for Rebecca.

NELLES.—On November 7th at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Carole (nee Wilson) and Edward —a son (Michael Drury Radcliffe).

POWELL-WILLIAMS.—On 31st July and 1st August, 1981, at The West London Hospital, to Karen (nee Parsons) and Kit—twins: a son (Christopher John) and a daughter (stillborn).

REEVES.—On November 6th, 1981, to Diana (nee Cavendish), wife of John—a son.

SHEARER.—On November 7th, at Cambridge, to Jane (nee Jefferson) and William—a son (Henry Charles Antony).

SPIEGELBERG.—On November 10, to Susanne and Richard—a son.

STOCKBRIDGE. — On November 9th, to Malissa (nee Charles) and Nicolas—a son (Charles), a brother for Anna and Lucy.

VAIZEY.—On 9th November, 1981, to Margaret (nee McGlashan) and Russell—a daughter (Hester).

WREN.—On Tuesday, November 10th, 1981, at Lewisham Hospital, London, to Yu Cheng and Christopher Wren—a daughter (Helena Natasha).

BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my Prince Charles! Love, Louise.

DEATHS

BEER, JOHANN FERDINAND (Hans).—solicitor and cherished husband of Gretel, suddenly on November 6, after a long illness at his home in Deal, Kent. Funeral private. Memorial service in London to be announced later.

BERRY, ANTHONY. — Peacefully on November 7th, 1981, Brian, aged 61 years, of The Cottages, Back Road, Gorefield, near Wisbech, dearly loved husband of Joyce.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE LADY HAILSHAM

the Church of England Children's Society is administrating the Lady Hailsham Fund to help teenagers without family support. Such work is desperately needed for these young people in the care of the Society to make their own way in the world. In tribute to Lady Hailsham please help. Send a donation to:

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SPEECH THERAPIST for post stroke gentleman...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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We urgently require more funds to develop this vital work. Can you help?

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Mental Health Foundation
Freepost 26, London W1E 3LE
President: The Rt Hon the Lord Butler KG, CH.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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Portugal	Gatwick	Hotel BB	2	7	1, 8 Dec	£109
				14	1, 8 Dec	£135
		Studio apt SC	4	7	1, 8, 15 Dec	£109
				14	1, 8 Dec	£135
Malta	Luton	Hotel HB	2	7	4, 11 Dec	£129
				14	4 Dec	£179
		2 bed apt SC	3	7	5, 12 Dec	£109
				14	5 Dec	£135
Tenerife	Gatwick	1 bed apt BB	3	7	1, 8 Dec	£145
				14	1, 8 Dec	£175
Majorca	Luton or Gatwick	Hotel FB	2	7	5, 12 Dec	£95
				14	5 Dec	£117
Costa Blanca	Gatwick	Hotel HB	2	7	6, 13 Dec	£89
Costa del Sol	Gatwick	Hotel HB	3	7	6, 13 Dec	£105
Tunisia	Gatwick	Hotel FB	3	7	5, 12 Dec	£119
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MERIBEL.—Jan 16, fortnight chalet party, needs 4. £350 each. 405 8131 (day) 299 2559 (eve).

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DECORATIVE French display cabinet also other French furniture required privately. Write Agents Box No. 0744 G, The Times.

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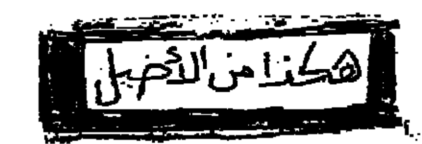
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.05 For Schools, Colleges. Subjects include Europe from the Air (at 9.05). It's Maths (9.48). Near and Far (bars of tin) at 11.05 and Search (transport in Wales) at 11.30. Interval at 12.30; At 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. There will be live coverage of the space shuttle launch at about 12.30; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Richard Blizzard makes some more toys for Christmas. And another finalist in the Nursing Awards; 1.45 Pigeon Street: for the very young; 2.00 You and Me. Also for the very young; 2.15 For Schools and Colleges: Music Time (collecting sounds) and, at 2.40: Episode four of Cathy Pellicer's After Four. Closedown at 3.00 Regional News at 3.53; 3.55 Play School: see BBC2, 11.00 for details.

4.20 Laurel and Hardy: cartoon; 4.25 Jackanory: Tom Conti reads from The Practical Princess and Other Liberating Fairy Tales; 4.40 Scooby and Scrappy Doo: cartoon.

5.00 Newsround: with Paul McDowell; 5.05 Blue Peter: Details of the 1981 Blue Peter appeal. 5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph. With Tony Hart.

5.40 News: with Richard Baker; 6.00 Regional news magazines; 6.25 Nationwide.

6.55 Tomorrow's World: Some ideas for making winter ski-ing more comfortable; how the Canadians are unravelling the story of the dinosaur; bacteria which can help to produce electricity; and some ingenious uses for magnetic liquids. Also, new contraceptive ideas.

7.20 Top of the Pops: with Dave Lee Travis.

7.55 Blankety Blank: with Dinah Sheridan, Lorraine Chase, Tony Blackburn, Leslie Crowther, Carol Drinkwater, Mike Reid and Terry Wogan.

8.30 Sink or Swim: Comedy series about two brothers. Tonight, the re-marriage of their father.

9.00 News with John Simpson. And weather.

9.25 Tenko: Part four of this serial about women held captive in a prisoner of war camp after the fall of Singapore. Their hopes of an early freedom dashed, the women now greet some new arrivals, including a group of nuns. There are difficulties in communications.

10.20 Behind the Scenes with John Wells: We see the playwright and actor transform himself into Denis Thatcher, husband of the prime minister, for his Whitehall comedy success Any One for Denis?

10.50 Question Time: Robin Day's team consists of Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Deputy Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, the shadow Treasury spokesman, Patricia Downs, who is personnel director of Woolworths and a member of the Manpower Services Commission; and Jane Reed, who is editor-in-chief of Woman magazine.

11.50 News headlines: And weather.

11.55 Closedown.

BBC1 VARIATIONS: — BBC Cymru/Wales 10.10-10.30 I Ysgolion 12.57-1.00 News 2.18-2.38 Ysgolion 5.00-6.25 Wales Today; 6.55-7.20 Heddiw 11.50 News. Scotland 11.30-11.50am For Schools; 12.55-1.00pm Scottish News 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland 8.30-9.00 Current Account. 11.50 News. Northern Ireland 12.57-1.00pm News 3.53-3.55 News 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 10.20-10.50 Sportsweek. 11.50-11.52 News 11.52-12.07am Festival Notebook. 12.07 News. England 6.00-6.25pm Regional news magazines 11.55 Close.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: James Blades, the world-famous percussionist, reads Malcolm Carrick's story The Guitarist who Lost his Plectrum; 11.25 Closedown; 12.00 Open University: The Pre-School Child) all in a day's work); 12.25 Health Choices (home cooking); 12.50 Governing Schools (the meeting). Open University closes down at 1.15; At 2.00: International Tennis: Live coverage of the Benson and Hedges Championships. From Wembley Arena. Can John McEnroe keep is title?

4.00 International Tennis: continued.

4.35 Women of Our Time: A portrait of the writer Nancy Mitford. Reminiscences from her four surviving sisters, Pamela, Diana, Jessica and Deborah (r).

5.40 The Five Faces of Doctor Who: Final episode of The Krotons (first shown in 1968), starring Patrick Troughton as the space-and-time traveller (r).

6.05 Film: Kim (1950) Victor Saville's spectacular film version of the Kipling book about an orphan lad and an Afghan horse-dealer. Set in India in the days of the British Raj. Starring Errol Flynn and Dean Stockwell; and co-starring Paul Lukas, Robert Douglas

7.55 News summary.

8.00 Living on the Land: Portrait of Dic Jones, the Welsh farmer and poet.

8.30 Russell Harty: with John Inman and Gyles Brandreth.

9.00 Happy Endings: Peter Skellern's weekly blend of comedy and music. This programme features 'B Flight', a group who sing songs of the thirties and forties in concerts around their RAF base. Skellern plays the group leader.

9.30 Forty Minutes: Rocky Circus. What happened earlier this year when circus owner Gerry Cottle tried something entirely different — a circus built around the re-launched pop singer Gary Glitter.

10.10 Cameo: Eye on the Wind. Highly imaginative short film about a dreamer and his wind-tossed images.

10.20 World's End: Serial, set in the Chelsea and Fulham areas of London. Danny (Micheal Angelis) is still pursuing Angela (Helen Bush).

10.45 Newsnight: Bulletins and comment.

11.30 International Tennis: highlights of the day's play in the Benson and Hedges Championship, from Wembley Arena.

12.15 Closedown.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools, Colleges. Subjects include the political uses of television (at 9.30), Bill Grundy on the South Downs (10.26) and Writers' Workshop, with Alan Garner (11.39); At 12.00 Giddup and Go; 12.10 Get Up and Go! with Beryl Reid; 12.20 The launching of the space shuttle; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Taff Acre: Serial, set in South Wales.; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Judith Chalmers sets the scene for tonight's Miss World contest at the Royal Albert Hall. Plus interview with Irish travel writer Dervla Murphy. Trevor Hyett is the interviewer. 2.45 Hazell: Comedy-drama about a cockney private eye (Nicholas Ball) and a murder (r); 3.45 Three Little Words: Word association game. With Ray Alan.

4.15 Walt Disney Classic: Chip 'n' Dale; 4.20 Palmerston: Drama about an attempted escape from a prison work-gang.

5.15 Take the Stage: Improvisation contest, with Don Henderson, Diane Keen and Simon Cadell versus a team from Nuffield Theatre, Sheffield.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news.

6.30 Film: The Wind and the Lion (1975) Adventure thriller set in North Africa at the turn of the century. Sean Connery is the rebel who kidnaps an American widow (Candice Bergen) and her two children. Co-starring John Huston and Brian Keith. Director: John Milius.

8.30 Miss World 1981: Seventy-four girls are after the title. Could the crown be lowered on to the head of Miss United Kingdom — Michele Donnelly? This is a live transmission from the Royal Albert Hall. Judith Chalmers and Peter Marshall are the comperes.

9.00 Miss World 1981 (continued). Who will take over the crown from Kimberley Santos, the present Miss World?. Will it be Miss United Kingdom, Michele Donnelly, from Cardiff? If you don't really care, you can always look at the Dougie Squires dancers.

10.00 News from ITN, also, news from the Thames area.

10.30 TV Eye: Operation Hot Seat. It's a grimly serious game played monthly at the Home Office Defence College at Easingwold, Yorkshire. Chief officers from local authorities throughout the country take part in recreating the aftermath of a nuclear attack on Britain — everything from disease and anarchy to starvation.

11.00 Minder: Comedy drama series with Dennis Waterman as the hired-out bodyguard and George Cole as his boss. Tonight, Waterman has to keep an eye on a former convict. Co-starring Ann Lynn, Tony Selby, Nicky Henson and Kenneth Cope (r).

12.00 What the Papers Say: George Gale reviews the newspapers.

12.25 Close Ann Scott-James reads something she likes.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint. Roger Cook investigates accusations of fraud and injustice.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 Enterprise. People who have achieved success against the odds (4) John Ridgway and his School of Adventure at Ardmore, near Cape Wrath.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Cautionary Tale" by Donald Bancroft.
11.00 News.
11.05 Analysis. Denis Healey in conversation with Mary Goldring.
11.50 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Top of the Form.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World At One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play† "Mother Care" by Tim Aspinall.
4.00 Home Base: News from around Britain which didn't quite make the national headlines.
4.15 Bookshelf: A weekly look at the world of books.
4.45 Story Time: "Wild Strawberries" by Angela Thirkell (3).
5.00 News Magazine.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.55 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time For Verse (new series) John Julius Norwich presents some of his favourite poems.†
7.30 New Vistas in Gardens. A Look at the changing horticultural fashions that affect our gardens.
7.45 Northern Sinfonia of England Concert: Haydn, Mozart.
8.45 I Know It's Here Somewhere. Michael Clegg, Curator of the Yorkshire Museum Talks about his journey through the natural world.
9.05 Concert† Part 2: Delius, Bizet.
9.45 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime "The Magic Glass" by Anne Smith (4).
11.15 The Financial world Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.

VHF 6.25am Weather. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30 Listen With Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 1.55pm Programme News. 2.00 For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Mehul (mono), Giuliani, Franck, Telemann, Glazunov; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Mascagni, Gershwin, Meyerbeer, Respighi; records.
9.00 news.
9.05 This Week's Composer. Strauss; records.
10.00 Bartok, Mozart, Berkeley, Brahms. Chamber Musicrecital.†
11.55 Sturm und Drang. The 18th-century German literary movement reflected in music (first of three programmes) Concert: Ordonez, Mozart, Kozeluh.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Manchester Midday concert. Song recital direct from the Royal Exchange Theatre: Schubert, Britten, Hahn.†
2.00 Quartets by Haydn and R. W. Wood. String Quartet recital.†
2.50 Duos for Flute and Piano. Recital: Pawlu Grech, Prokofiev.†
3.30 South German Radio Symphony Orchestra. Concert: Schoenberg, Webern, Beethoven.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure with Jeremy Siepmann.†
7.00 Haitink Conducts Debussy on records.†
7.45 Under Milk Wood (s/q) A Play for voices by Dylan Thomas. Glyn Houston as first voice, Petra Davies as second voice, Aubrey Richards as The Rev Eli Jenkins, — Gerald James as Captain Cat, Nery Hughes as Polly Garter.
9.30 Melos Ensemble. Recital: Crusell quartet in D, Op. 7, for flue and strings.†
9.55 Words (series) Talk by John Wain (4).
10.00 Music in our Time — Luigi Nono; records.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Beethoven — on records.†



Glyn Houston: Under Milk Wood (Radio 3; 7.45pm)

Carl Davis: Star Sound Extra (Radio 2, 10.30pm)

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Susannah Simons.† 12.00 John Dunn.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News. 6.00 David Symonds.† 8.00 Country Club.† 9.00 Alan Dell.† 10.00 The News Huddlines. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.03 Brian Matthew from midnight.† 1.00 am Trucker's Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. 6.00 Top 30 Album Chart. 7.00 Paul Gambaccini with an appreciation of David Bowie. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close. VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648kHz (463m) at the following times GMT:- 6am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News summary. 7.30 Music for Strings. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World news 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Golden Treasury. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World news. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Rock Salad. 10.15 Lord of the Flies. 10.30 Just a Minute. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Six Irish Writers. 11.30 Assignment. 12pm Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Out-Look. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12am World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Time Remembered. 1.00 Lord of the Flies. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Golden Treasury. 2.30 Music Now. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

CHOICE

John Wells as Denis Thatcher in Behind the Scenes (BBC 1, 10:20pm)

● Jack Pizzey's film ROCKY CIRCUS (BBC 1, 9.30), an affectionate tribute to a doomed venture, records what happened when the greatest show on earth became the noisiest. Too few bottoms on too many seats encouraged itinerant circus boss Gerry Cottle to reconstruct his show around a plumply optimistic pop star of yesteryear, Gary Glitter. But the conjunction of ear-punishing rock music, Mr Glitter dangling from a wire, fire-eaters and trampolining kiddies, did not attract any more bottoms than did the Glitterless show. The film left me feeling sad, not just because the venture failed but because of the pretty pass to which the once magnificent circus has come.

● The women's prison camp serial TENKO (BBC1, 9.25pm) is coming along very nicely, though I'm not convinced that having a different writer every week is wise. It's a good way to cut the scribe unemployment rate, but the price can be high: fluctuating continuity — despite the ministrations of an unchanging (and largely excellent) cast and a constant production team (though I believe there's a change of director after episode five). A cool clearing in Dorset woodland stands in most convincingly for a sweaty Far Eastern prison camp, but the mosquito buzz sounds a bit low-powered to me.

● UNDER MILK WOOD (Radio 3, 7.45pm) is not Douglas Cleverdon's pioneering production of the early 1950s — the standard by which all subsequent productions have been measured and by which most have fallen short — but the Gerry Jones/Ian Cotterell version first heard in 1978. Much fuss was then made of the fact that this was recorded in the newly-perfected quadrophonic sound system by which Llareggub sprang up all around our listening post. The same all-encompassing system is used again tonight. This is a perfectly acceptable reading of Dylan Thomas's great work, though its depth of sound is not matched by its depth of vocal characterization; how one misses Hugh Griffith's Captain Cat. The first Voice, formerly Richard Burton's, now belongs to Glyn Houston, who gives it a less poetical gloss. The Second Voice is Petra Davies's. The new Captain Cat is Gerald James, and Nerys Hughes gives a good account of Polly Garter's infinitely touching step-scrubbing songs.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Vicky the Viking. 4.50-5.45 240 Robert. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Take the Stage: New series of game shows. 7.30-8.30 Monte Carlo Show: Anthony Newley. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

SOUTHERN

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50 Flying Kiwi. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.30 University Challenge. 7.00 Take the Stage. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 Going Out. 12.00 Weather followed by Exile from El Salvador.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50-5.45 Tarzan. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Take the Stage: New series of game shows. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 Going Out. 12.00 Closedown.

WESTWARD

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Benson. 7.30-8.30 Chips. 10.32 News. 10.34 TV eye. 11.00 Rugby: Devon and Cornwall v Australia. 11.30 Talking Bikes. 12.00 Going out. 12.25 am Faith for life. 12.31 Closedown.

HTV WEST

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.15 Foghorn Leghorn. 4.20 Project UFO. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Definition. 7.00 Take The Stage. 7.30-8.30 Hart To Hart. 10.28 News. 10.30 Fit For Living: Effects of swimming. 11.05 Going Out. 11.35 Vegas. 12.35 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 11.22 am-11.37 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Cei Cocos. 1.30-2.00 Definition. 4.20 Adventures of Black Beauty. 4.45 Sêr. 5.15-5.20 Honey Mousers. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.30 I Really Want To Dance. 11.30 Going Out. 12.00 Survival.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts: 9.20am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 4.20 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50-5.45 Tarzan. Tarzan is sent to rescue the victims of an earthquake; 6.00 News. 6.02 Crosswords. 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00 Take the Stage. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.30 News. 10.32 TV Eye. 11.00 Come In. . . . 11.30 Talking Bikes. 12.00 Remembrance.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Further adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50 Muppet Show: Marisa Berenson. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland today. 6.20 Bodyline. 6.30 Benson. 7.00 Take the High Road. 7.30-8.30 BJ and the bear. 11.00 Communicators: Ken Loach. 11.00 Seachd Laithean. 11.45 Late Call. 11.50 International Darts. 12.20 am Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 What's On Where. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Benson. 7.30-8.30 Great Race. 10.28 News. 10.34 TV Eye. 11.00 Rugby: Devon and Cornwall v Australia. 11.30 Talking Bikes. 12.00 Going Out. 12.25 Closedown.

ATV

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 A New Kind Of Family. 1.20-1.30 News. 4.15-5.45 Film: The Black Arrow (Gordon Douglas, Louis Hayward) classic swashbuckler released in 1948. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00 Take the Stage — New series of game shows. 7.30-8.30 Treasure Chest Murder. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 News. 11.35 Project UFO. 12.35 am Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.13 News. 4.15 Cartoon. 4.20 Further adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50 Flying Kiwi. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good evening Ulster. 6.50 Police Six. 7.00 Take the stage. 7.30 Give us a clue, with Michael Aspel. 8.00-8.30 Happy days. 11.00 Talking bikes. 11.30 Bedtime, followed by Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Vicky the Viking. 4.45-5.15 Further adventures of Oliver Twist. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-8.30 Film: Appointment in Honduras (Glenn Ford, Ann Sheridan). A passenger on board ship is carrying a large sum of money for the deposed president of a small country. 11.00 Talking bikes. 11.30 Hagen. 12.25 am Your choice.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50 Sport Billy. 5.15-5.45 Take The Stage. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Electric Theatre Show. 7.30 Give Us A Clue. 8.00-8.30 Max Bygraves. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 Seachd Laithean. 11.45 SWAT. 12.40 am News.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.20 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 4.50-5.45 Little House of the Prairie. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00 Take the Stage. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 11.00 Talking Bikes. 11.30 What the Papers Say. 11.50 Tenspeed and Brown Shoe. 12.45am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

CONCERTS

THEATRES

CINEMAS

EXHIBITIONS

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to: The Times, P.O. Box 7, 200, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY 43 Old Bond St. W1. 629 6176. SCULPTURE AND WORKS OF ART. Also a Loan Exhibition of Victorian Pictures from the Royal Holloway College. Adm £1. Until 11 Dec. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30; Thurs until 7.

LUMLEY CAZALET, 24 Davies St. W1. 499 5058. WHISTLER—40 Lithographs. Until 27 November.

MALL GALLERIES The Mall, SW1. United Society of Artists 61st Annual Exhibition. Mon-Sat 10-5. Adm 50p.

MARLBOROUGH 6 Albemarle St. W1. LARRY RIVERS: The continuing interest in Abstract Art. Until 25 November. Mon-Fri 10-5.30 Sat 10-12.30.

BL loss at £12m as tea break strike talks fail

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Day-long talks on the strike over tea breaks that has stopped BL's Longbridge car plant collapsed last night with both sides more firmly entrenched than ever, and more workers joining the dispute.

Four-hundred Allegro assemblers voted to join the 1,800 Metro and Mini assemblers on strike since Monday night. A further 3,000 have been laid off. The dispute has already cost BL 3,000 cars, worth £12m at showroom prices. Most of them are Metros, the company's best-selling model, accounting for more than one-third of its sales.

It had been hoped that a peace formula would emerge yesterday that could be put to a mass meeting called for today. But full-time union officials and shop stewards told the management that the present 52-minute day allowance (55 at night) for tea and rest breaks was "absolutely sacrosanct" and that they were united in their rejection of the move to reduce it to 40 minutes.

Neither were they prepared to suggest alternative means of financing the reduction in the working week from 40 to 39 hours. Cooperation by unions to achieve that was written into the 1979 engineering industry agreement, which called for the one-hour reduction to be introduced in November 1981.

After its well-established practice of ensuring that employees in dispute are fully briefed on the issues, the company last night sent a letter to the strikers and those laid off. Signed by Mr Brian Fox, Birmingham operations director, it said BL did not have the money necessary to absorb a 2.5 per cent cut in capacity and output. It emphasized that a week ago all 11 manual unions had signed the company's 1981-82 wage deal which committed them to financing the one-hour cut by more efficient use of working time.

BL chiefs made little attempt to hide their growing resentment of the role being played in the dispute by Mr Terence Duffy's Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which made the strike official only 24 hours after it began.

In telephone calls to the union's headquarters, and across the negotiating table at Longbridge, they drew the attention of union executives to paragraph three of the 1979 agreement between the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation. That commits both sides to cooperate at all levels to find ways of introducing the shorter working week without increasing manufacturing costs.

☐ About 4,000 hourly-paid Vauxhall workers decided at a mass meeting at the Luton plant yesterday to accept a 5 per cent across the board pay increase. The offer has yet to be put to 11,500 workers at the company's Dunstable and Ellesmere Port plants.

Shop stewards of the transport and engineering unions are organizing a ballot of the Dunstable workforce, but arrangements for consulting the Ellesmere Port workers have not yet been confirmed.

☐ The emerging school of "macho management" offered no solution to industrial relations, Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of the conciliation service, ACAS, and a former BL executive said in the Shell lecture in Glasgow yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Shell shop stewards defuse strike threat

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The threatened strike by tanker drivers, which was due to start next Monday, is almost certain to be postponed. Last night influential Shell shop stewards voted to put an 8 per cent pay offer to a secret ballot of the company's 2,000 drivers.

Meetings of senior stewards from the other three main oil companies today and tomorrow will be told of the Shell recommendation and it is expected that they will follow suit.

Shell stewards are due to meet again next Wednesday and a strike could not be called for several days after that meeting. Last night's decision was the first firm indication of disenchantment among the country's oil distribution workers at the strike call that was made by a delegate meeting of the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU).

The Shell stewards' three-hour meeting revealed a noticeable softening in TGWU attitudes to the strike and cast doubt on whether the first-ever national tanker drivers' strike would take place.

The recommendation from the meeting, while rejecting the 8 per cent offer, expressed the union's willingness to negotiate or to meet under the provisions of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

The recommendation also appeared to criticize Mr Alex Kitson, the union's acting general secretary, who was reported in *The Sunday Times* as saying that a tanker drivers' strike would be extremely political and could force the Government into an economic U-turn.

The stewards' recommendation deplored "the confusion that has arisen in what is and remains an industrial dispute", but union officials maintained there was no criticism of Mr Kitson and accused the media of distortion.

Shell workers will now vote on the offer over the next few days and the stewards' meeting next Wednesday will decide, in view of the voting results, whether to recommend a strike.

Mr John Ashwell, the TGWU national secretary for commercial transport, said: "Come what may, it is very unlikely that there will be any Shell drivers on strike nextMonday. The stewards employed in Shell have the respect of the membership

Shell claims that the 8 per cent offer would increase average earnings of its blue-collar oil distribution workers to about £193.50 a week and that average earnings in the industry generally would rise to between £170 a week and £217



Nobby Clark

Return to Stratford-on-Avon

Dame Peggy Ashcroft appears to be unaware that *All's Well that Ends Well* as she rehearses in a new production by the Royal Shakespeare Company which opens on Tuesday at Stratford-on-Avon (Christopher Warman writes). The role of the countess is said to suit her perfectly, and unless she performed the role secretly at Little Swansdown in Bardavon appears to be her debut in that part. Certainly it is her first appearance in a Shakespeare production in Stratford since 1969. Apart from the fact that the part is right for her, it is a good time for Dame Peggy, who will be 74 next month, to return to the RSC. She has for many years been a keen supporter of the company and has been a director since 1968. With the company moving to a permanent London home at the Barbican Centre next year, it begins a new era of performances.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Stale claret and a poisoned chalice

As always, the Queen's Speech debate ended last night with a wind-up by the Leader of the House. This is traditionally a knockabout occasion—a time for mangled metaphors and soppy smiles.

The present incumbent, Mr Francis Pym, is no Willie Whitelaw. But after a routine onslaught on the Labour Party, Mr Pym closed with a passage about the SDP worthy of that grand master of mixing.

He shouted above the din that the rehis "stale claret in new bottles is a confidence trick and a poisoned chalice to the Liberal Party. I say to them: don't mistake it for the elixir of life".

One had no idea what he was talking about, but it sounded delicious. "It is a reckless and a half-baked idea", he added in a final flourish subtly mixing the metaphor still further to encompass the kitchen as well as the wine cellar. As he sat down he was just rewarded with a cheer from both sides of the House.

After Mr Benn's excesses of the night before, Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Chancellor, had opened the day's debate. He likened government economic policy to (1) America's mercifully abandoned wartime Morganthau Plan for the pastoralization of Germany, and (2) the Soviet Union's laying waste of Manchuria's industry in 1945. Corrected result: *Wedgie was the moderate.*

Mr Shore stormed and raged amazingly for 40 minutes. He—and Mr Benn at the end of the previous sitting—thus brought this seemingly interminable Queen's Speech debate to an uncharacteristically noisy final stretch. This was not the restrained, responsible, reasonable debate I joined as a lad all those days ago. But I like to think that it is the debate which has changed, not me.

Traditionally, on this last day of the debate, most of us are in no mood to listen to speeches. Throughout Mr Shore's remorseless performance it must have been difficult for many members to get a decent afternoon's sleep.

"The country is living through a tragedy the dimensions and consequences of which we have scarcely begun to grasp", Mr Shore said. But he was only warming up. The trouble we were in was "so deep as to be almost beyond our comprehension", apparently. It was "on a scale which almost defies analogy and comparison in recent history". None the less, he made the effort. That was how he got around to the Morganthau Plan and Manchuria.

One assumes that, outside the Commons, people were still going about their lives unaware that they were being pastoralized or their industry carted off by Russians. But Mr Shore was in a terrible state about it. Who was to blame, apart from the two monsters sitting on the Government front bench opposite him?

Suddenly, he was raving about "the alien philosophers, Friedman and von Hayek." He mentioned the one in the name of the gentle Austrian Nobel prize-winning economist with special brutal emphasis, as in von Ribbentrop.

The thought crossed one's mind: supposing a Tory member had used the adjective "alien" to describe any of the *left's* savants—or indeed anyone including real aliens. There would have been uproar.

The further thought crossed one's mind: which side has got the highest number of alien economists anyway. Labour's bear such fine old roast beef and Morris dancing names as Balogh, Kaldor, Engels, Marx. At least the supporters of capitalism can produce one with the name Adam Smith.

When a frontbencher is making a notably incomprehensible but learned-sounding speech his backbenchers always make out they know *what he is talking about. This* is especially true of the more slow-witted ones. Nobody *wants to look a fool. So great* is that desire, it is amazing that so many of them still do.

So the Labour backbenchers nodded sagely at that reference to Morganthau, recognizing him instantly no doubt as one of those swine hanged at Nuremburg. And Mr Shore's mention of "the obsessions, madness and theoretical nonsense of the Chicago school" was assumed to be a reference to Al Capone's poker game.

To the relief of the rest of us, Mr Shore eventually lapsed into a rather technical discussion of such matters as "the long term market in gilts". Mention of long-term guilt brings one to Mr Benn. Everywhere there were signs of the havoc he had wrought when he blew through the House the night before. Slates had fallen off roofs. Labour policies had collapsed.

What he had said, it will be remembered, was that a future Labour Government should renationalize the energy industry without compensation.

Wisely, Mr Benn was nowhere to be seen in the Chamber yesterday.

£120 basic at coalface

Continued from page 1

Sir Derek Ezra, NCB chairman, said that in improving the total cash on offer from the earlier £71m the board was taking a calculated risk that it would be able to fund the deal through further improvements in efficiency.

He said: "We have got to earn this £30m. We have been doing extremely well, but we have got to go on doing so to pay for this extra amount."

Basic rates under the offer would increase by £8.70 for coalface workers to £120.65 a week; by £6.30 for surface workers on the lowest grade to £87.15.

The standard rate for meeting current production targets is increased by £1 to £31, yielding actual increases in bonus of £1.36 per week to the highest paid faceworker and 55p a week to the lowest paid surface-worker.

☐ Leaders of workers in the water industry claimed last night that the offer to the miners represented a new marker for the pay of public service workers (the Press Association reports).

Mr Ronald Keating, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, is to meet the National Joint Council for the Water Industry next Wednesday for resumed talks on a pay offer of 6.7 per cent.

Homebuyers want more time to pay

By Our Business News Staff

A large increase in the number of homebuyers unable or unwilling to pay the increased mortgage repayments which came into effect at the beginning of this month, was reported yesterday by the Leeds Permanent Building Society.

An estimated 50 per cent of the Leeds 327,000 borrowers have indicated that they want to keep mortgage repayments at existing levels and extend the term of their loan, said Stanley Walker, the Leeds chief general manager.

The basic mortgage rate went up from 13 per cent to 15 per cent on November 1. For a borrower with a £15,000 loan, the increase in monthly repayments would be an extra £17.

In the recent past, about 80 to 90 per cent of borrowers have opted to increase monthly repayments rather than extend their loan. The large increase in the numbers of borrowers unable or unwilling to meet higher mortgage repayments was probably attributable to falling living standards and a decline in families' real incomes, Mr Walker said.

Other societies say it is too soon for any indication of the numbers of borrowers who will refuse to pay higher mortgage repayments.

Nationwide pointed out that a high proportion of borrowers did not opt to reduce their repayments when the mortgage rate came down from 15 per cent to 14 per cent in December 1980 nor in April, when it dropped to 13 per cent. A large number of their borrowers have been making repayments at the 15 per cent level since it was introduced in January 1980, and are still doing so. For these borrowers, there is no need to increase repayments.

Little hope of an early reduction in the mortgage rate was offered to borrowers, with Mr Walker of the Leeds predicting that the record 15 per cent rate was unlikely to be reduced before 1983. Expressing pessimism about the general level of interest rates both here and in the United States, Mr Walker said: "They will probably drop a little but not enough

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Tomorrow's events

The Queen opens Phase II of Town Centre Development, Telford, 10.10; later visits 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, Tern Hill, 11.50.

Talks, lectures:

Good luck and bad luck in the ancient world, 11.30; Goya—the development of an artist, 1.15, British Museum.

Millais: The Pre-Raphaelite Years, by Sarah Reid, Tate Gallery, 1.

"Buildings of the Year" by Robert Thorne, Museum of London, London Wall, 1.10.

Champaigne "Cardinal Richelieu", National Gallery, 1.

Christine Hayes Memorial Lecture: "What Future For The Family?" by Nicholas Tyndall, Chief Officer of National Marriage Guidance Council, Lowestoft Hotel Victoria, Lowestoft, 7.

Illustrated lecture by members of the aeronautic team "The Red Arrows", Camden Works Museum, Julian Road, Bath, 7.30.

Lunchtime music:

Organ recital by Richard Fenwick, St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Timothy Blackmore, piano, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 1.10.

Roger Cutts, piano, St Martin-within-Ludgate, 1.15.

Exhibitions:

Elizabeth Blackadder, paintings and drawings, 1954-81, Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum, 10-5.

R.W.A. 129th Annual Exhibition, Royal West of England Academy, Queen's Road, Bristol, 10-5.30.

Magic, Mirrors and Masks, Charles de Temple Gallery, 52 Jermyn Street, 11-5.

Ian Breakwell: "The Artist's Dream", Ceolfrith Gallery Sunderland Arts Centre, 17 Grange Terrace, Stockton Road, 10-6.

Bailey on Photography, The Olympus Gallery, 151 Piccadilly, 10-5.30.

Lorri Exhibition of Paintings—collage, New South Wales House Gallery, 66 Strand, 10-5.

Art Pop—Japan: Paintings, advertisements, posters and record sleeves by young Japanese artists and designers, compiled by Koichi Tanikawa, ICA, The Mall, 12-9.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,678

ACROSS

1 Save petrol in Land's End? (5)
4 Fish and chips a Dr Pound cooked (9)
9 Whereby egotist becomes top of the pops? (5,4)
10 Relative might have a right to be dim? (5)
11 Custom costly to Polonius (5)
12 One filling in former estimate is free from blame (9)
13 Victim in love ships? That's for the birds (7)
15 About to leave course in a manner of speaking (7)
18 Football club presents girl to RN members (7)
20 Rebellion of some rugby players (7)
21 Perhaps a dangerous turning on the road (5,4)
23 A quiet, dull retreat in Florida? (5)
25 Frequently needs some proof — tends to doubt (5)
26 Making allowances for poor Leo when hypnotized (9)
27 Bad golfer can get the bird (9)
28 Girl starts "The Waste Land" (5)

DOWN

1 Dismiss European constable (9)
2 Bitter speech from a Yugoslavian perhaps (5)
3 Behaviour to someone lessens ill-feeling? (9)
4 Could be a writ, of course (7)
5 Tree and its products (7)
6 Southend river dwelling (5)
7 Total abstainer finds about 11 in church (9)
8 Skin used out east (5)
14 Teacher revised report about many a record (9)
16 Accountant on holiday to look up refreshment place (9)
17 Nothing like an apple (9)
19 Preferring family favourites (7)
20 Marsh confused Noel with French writer (7)
21 Chinaman about right? On the contrary (5)
22 Jenny singing to a girl (5)
24 Worker resettled in middle of Armenia (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 15,677

Across: HELIOTROPE, MISS, STANDPOINT, LIMP, CHIC, EDITORIAL, PERIODIC, EMBLEM, CASTLE, CASTIRON, LUBRICATE, CUFF, PAIR, INFILTRATE, EVAN, THREEPENNY

The papers

The *Daily Mirror* is critical in its leader of Lord Denning. His remarks in the GLC cheap fares case were "as disgraceful as they were dangerous", the paper says.

According to the *Mirror*, Lord Denning's comments about the Labour Party's manifesto in London constituted a political view rather than a legal opinion which dismissed the right of voters to decide how they wanted to be governed.

Not even a judge could have been ignorant of the fact that the promise to cut fares was the main Labour policy in the last GLC elections, the *Mirror* says.

Last year, the leader says, Lord Denning was warning about the danger of misuse of power by a future left wing government. However, the *Mirror* goes on, politicians had to face regular elections while judges were appointed—in Lord Denning's case, for life.

The leader concludes: "Although he is 82 he has said he will never resign. It is time he changed his mind."

An editorial in the *Washington Post* says that evidence of the use of chemical warfare in south east Asia merits the most serious possible international inquiry to prove or disprove the charges, and to hold the Soviet Union accountable for a flagrant violation of an arms control agreement.

Today's anniversaries

Richard Baxter, English puritan preacher, was born at Rowton, Shropshire, in 1615. John William Rayleigh, physicist (Nobel Prize 1904) was born at Maldon, Essex, in 1842. Sun Yat-sen, President of the Republic of China 1911-12, was born at Hsiang-shan, Kwangtung Province, in 1866. Canute, king of Denmark, England and Norway, died at Shaftesbury, Dorset, in 1035. Elizabeth Gaskell died at Holyburn, Hampshire, in 1865.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on encroachment on local government autonomy. Lords (3): Conclusion of debate on Queen's Speech. Main topic will be economic and industrial affairs.

The Times list of best-selling books

Art			
Story of Art	E Gombrich	Phaidon	£5.50
Penguins Dictionary of Art & Artists	P & L Murray	Penguin	£1.95
One Man Show	Beryl Cook	John Murray	£5.95
British Wood Engravings of the 20th Century	A Garrett	Scolar Press	£8.95
Impressionists	William Gaunt	Thames & Hudson	£9.50
Antiques			
Bradbury's Book of Hallmarks		Northend	£1.30
Miller's Antique Price Guide 1982		Mitchell Beazley	£9.95
British Teapot	Janet Street-Porter	Angus & Robertson	£9.95
English Pottery & Porcelain Marks		Foulsham	£1.25
Arthur Negus Guide to English Furniture	Arthur Negus	Hamlyn	£5.95

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammick's bookshops and 20 others.

David Niven's *Go Slowly, Come Back Quickly*, number 10 in yesterday's list of best-selling hardbacks, is published not by Weidenfeld as we stated, but by Hamish Hamilton.

Roads

Midlands: *M6*, Staffordshire, only one lane open southbound between junction 11 and 12. Only two lanes open northbound. A34, roadworks to north of Stratford; lengthy delays. A5, delays at Atherstone and Grendon; temporary signals.

The North: M6, Lancashire: roadworks at junction 35. Work affects slip roads and A6 through traffic unaffected. A535, closed at Alderley Road, Chelford, Cheshire; diversion. A59, congestion likely at Broughton Road, Skipton; temporary signals.

Wales and the West: *M4*, during working hours only one lane open eastbound between junction 15 (A435/Swindon/Marlborough) and westbound between junction 15 and junction 17 (A429 to Cirencester and Chippenham). A40, Dyfed, main road to Fishguard closed until end of January. M4, from 9 am to 3.30 pm one lane open eastbound between junctions 13 (Newbury) and 12 (Reading).

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.68	1.61
Belgium Fr	80.50	76.50
Canada $	2.30	2.21
Denmark Kr	13.94	13.24
France Fr	10.97	10.37
Germany DM	4.34	4.10
Greece Dr	127.00	119.00
Hongkong $	11.05	10.45
Ireland Pt	1.22	1.17
Italy Lira	2315.00	2215.00
Japan Yen	453.00	427.00
Netherlands Gld	4.75	4.51
Norway Kr	11.46	10.86
Portugal Esc	125.50	118.50
South Africa Rd	1.78	1.62
Spain Pta	183.00	175.00
Sweden Kr	10.74	10.20
Switzerland Fr	3.51	3.29
USA $	1.93	1.86

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* index rose 5.5 to 508.2.

New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 3.14 up at 857.12.

Sporting fixtures

Racing: Two NH meetings: Wincanton (1); Stratford-on-Avon (1.15).

Tennis: Benson and Hedges Tournament, Wembley Arena, London (11 and 7).

Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: carved frames and European oil paintings, 11; English and Continental furniture, 2.30. Christie's, King Street: fine English furniture, 11. Phillips, Blenheim Street: The Giovanna collection of postage stamps, 11. Sotheby's, New Bond Street: books, coins. Sotheby's, Belgravia: European ceramics.

Viewing today

Christie's, King Street: Old Master pictures (until 4); fine Chinese export porcelain and works of art; fine English drawings and watercolours; printed music and fine musical instruments. Phillips, Blenheim Street: postage stamps (until 10.30), silver and plate; modern British paintings. Sotheby's, New Bond Street: Delftware; prints; arms and armour. Sotheby's, Belgravia: costumes and textiles.

CB radio

General and technical information about citizens' band radio can be obtained from the Licensing Branch of the Home Office Radio Regulatory Department, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London, SE1 8UA (telephone 01-275 3000). Individual users and clubs are represented by Natcolcibar, the organization which pressed for the legalization of CB radio. Its chairman is Mr Ian Leslie, 71, Duke's Avenue, London, N10 2PY (when writing please enclose stamped/addressed envelope).

CB licences, costing £10, can be obtained from post offices and cover up to three sets.

Stamp vouchers

The Post Office is offering philatelic gift vouchers which can be exchanged for collectors' items including stamps, first day covers, albums and wallcharts. As well as being on sale and redeemable at most post offices from today, the gift vouchers can be exchanged through the post at the Philatelic Bureau, Freepost, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh, EH3 5TT. They cannot be exchanged for cash.

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Weather

The general situation: Pressure will remain high over S Britain as a weakening trough moves SE across most parts.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Mainly dry, bright intervals, perhaps rain later; wind W, light to moderate; max temp 11C (52F).

Central S, E, Central N England, Midlands: Mainly dry, bright intervals, possibly rain in afternoon; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 11C (52F).

SW England, S Wales: Occasional rain, some bright intervals; wind W, light or moderate, locally fresh later; max temp 11C (52F).

N Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Rather cloudy, occasional rain, some bright intervals; wind SW light veering NW and freshening; max temp 10C (50F).

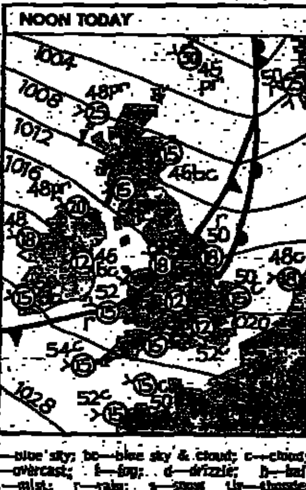
Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Outbreaks of rain, sunny intervals and occasional showers; wind SW veering NW moderate or fresh, locally strong; max temp 10C (50F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen: Outbreaks of rain becoming brighter; wind SW veering NW fresh, locally strong; max temp 9C (48F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rain at first, becoming brighter; wind S veering NW fresh or strong, locally gale; max temp 8C (46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry, rather cold with night frost.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind W or NW, fresh, occasionally strong; sea moderate. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E), St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W or NW, moderate or fresh, locally strong later; sea moderate.



Sun sets: 4.16 pm. Sun rises: 7.13 am. Moon rises: 5.08 pm. Moon sets: 7.28 am.
Last quarter: November 18.

Lighting-up time

London 4.46 pm to 6.45 am
Bristol 4.56 pm to 6.55 am
Edinburgh 4.41 pm to 7.15 am
Manchester 4.47 pm to 7.01 am
Penzance 5.12 pm to 7.02 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; r, rain; f, fair.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	10	50	Jersey	c	10	50
Birmingham	c	9	48	London	c	11	52
Blackpool	c	11	52	Manchester	r	10	50
Bristol	c	10	50	Newcastle	r	11	52
Cardiff	r	11	52	Ronaldsway	c	11	52

London

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 89 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,015.6 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Fitness, 14C (57F); Lowest day max: Lerwick, 6C (43F); Highest rainfall: Fair Isle, 0.75in; Highest sunshine: Eskdalemuir, 3.3hr.

Satellite predictions

Figures give: time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 151R 18.38-18.42; WNW; 90WSW; WSW. Cosmos 236R (Nov 13) 4.34-4.36; SE*; 10ESE; ESE. 6.8-6.14; SW; 35SSE; ENE. Cosmos 220R (Nov 13) 3.23-3.25; ESE; 10E; E. 4.59-5.8; SSW; 65SSE; NNE. Cosmos 956R 17.13-17.18; SW; 35NW; N.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, University of Aston, Birmingham.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)

b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	0.2	.02	11	52	Rain am
Bridlington	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cromer	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lowestoft	0.1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clacton	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Margate	0.4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Poole	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bognor Regis	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southsea	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shanklin	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bournemouth	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Folkestone	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hastings	0.3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastbourne	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Worthing	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Littlehampton	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swanage	0.3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weymouth	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C
Ajaccio	s	12
Akrotiri	c	20
Alexandria	c	24
Algiers	s	20
Amsterdam	c	6
Athens	f	10
Bahrain	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	f	14
Beirut	c	21
Belgrade	c	2
Berlin	r	4
Bermuda	f	24
Biarritz	s	14
Boulogne	c	8
Bordeaux	f	7
Brussels	c	4
Budapest	f	3
Cairo	f	23
Capetown	f	23
Casablanca	s	25
Chicago	f	10
Cologne	c	3